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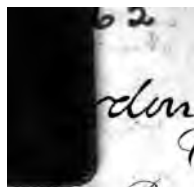
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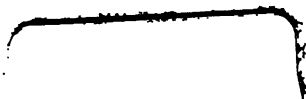
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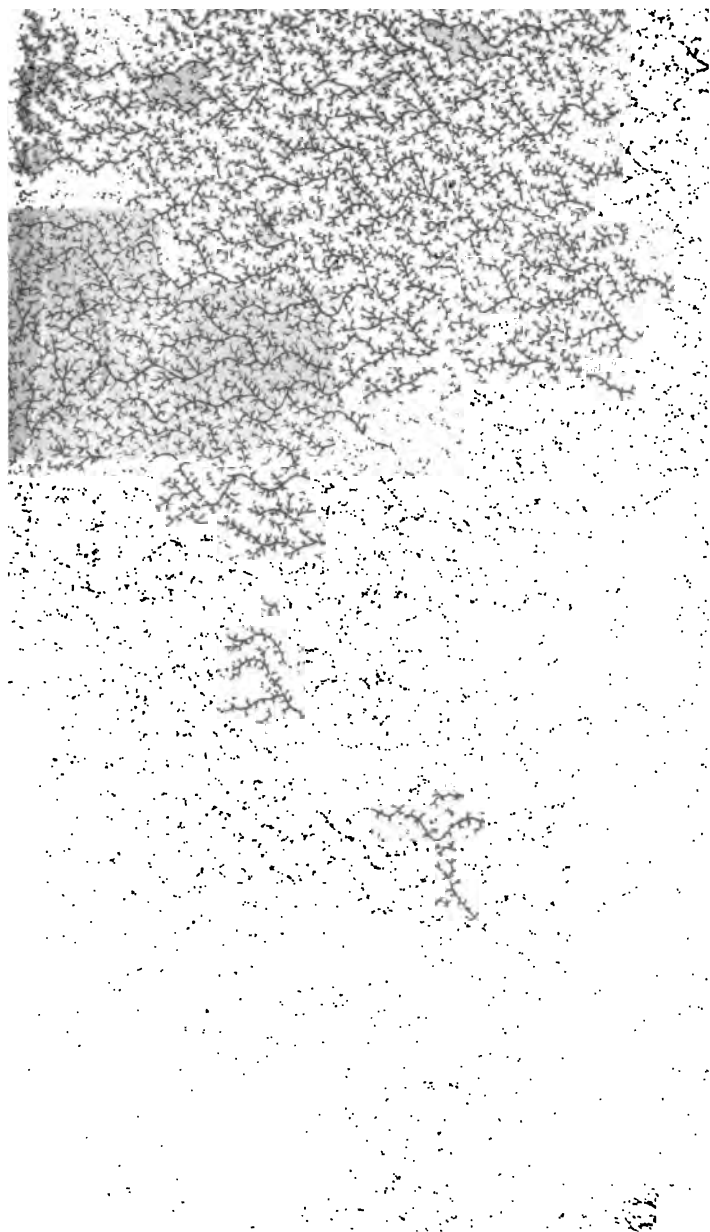
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FIRST LESSONS

IN

FRENCH:

CONSISTING OF

RULES AND DIRECTIONS

FOR THE

ATTAINMENT OF A JUST PRONUNCIATION,

AND

SELECT PIECES

ARRANGED FOR DOUBLE TRANSLATION FROM FRENCH INTO

ENGLISH AND FROM ENGLISH INTO FRENCH.

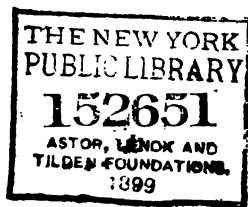
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OBJECT AND ADVANTAGES OF THE WORK.

The object of the present publication is to afford to persons desirous of learning French, a sure and easy method of acquiring a just pronunciation of that language, and, at the same time, convenient means of promptly mastering, both for the purpose of translation and conversation, a great number of its most useful words and phrases.

Many judicious persons are of opinion, that, to learn a foreign language promptly and successfully, it is advisable to study it not only for translation but also for conversation. That opinion is well grounded, for it is a law of the human mind, that in every department, knowledge is much more easily and rapidly acquired, and certainly much better retained, when the first impressions that are received, are made as strong as possible. And every reflecting man will perceive that the mastering of words and phrases for the purpose of using them in conversation, requires a much stronger application of attention, than the ordinary guessing of the sense, which takes place in translating ideas from a foreign language which we learn, into our native tongue.

The means here proposed for the attainment of this twofold object have been tried for a number of years in Philadelphia, and have proved more successful than any other with which the author, who has devoted a great portion of his time and attention to the subject, is acquainted.

The advantages which those means are calculated to afford, are immense; they are the following:

- 1st. The student having previously learned how to pronounce about a dozen short words, containing all the elementary sounds of the French language, which are not found in English, could very readily ascertain the sound of every letter or combination of letters.

2d. The longest words can be read with as much facility as the shortest, because a few rules or directions, the understanding and application of which are equally easy, teach the proper division of words into syllables.

3d. The proper accentuation of syllables is taught by one rule without exception.

4th. The frequent exercise of dividing words into syllables, which is recommended as so very important for the attainment of a just French pronunciation, greatly facilitates the application of the rule for proper accentuation. Experience has shown, that, when this exercise is not frequently resorted to for a considerable length of time, the student can seldom get rid of the habit of placing the stress of the voice in French, as in his own language—a manner of pronouncing by which a French ear is most disagreeably affected.

5th. One of the most important advantages of this method of teaching pronunciation, is, that many pupils of common capacity, and docility, can be instructed simultaneously, not only with as much success as individually, but indeed much more agreeably; as the accurate observance of time, which must take place in a simultaneous repetition of syllables after the teacher, or spontaneous utterance of the same by the pupils, never fails to excite the interest of the class, and secure order and attention.

6th. It very frequently happens that in common conversation, and familiar reading, the French suppress, or rather very faintly utter the sound of *e*; a rule teaching when this suppression, or faint utterance is to take place, will enable the learner to imitate the pronunciation of the natives of France in this respect, and to understand them in conversation much more easily.

7th. A rule by means of which it can be determined when a final consonant is silent, when it must be sounded, and united to the vowel beginning the next word, will be found of great service.

8th. Directions are given for the attainment of the tones and inflections belonging to the French language.

9th. The figured exercises, a model of which is offered (page 20) will prove extremely advantageous; as the teacher, by examining them at his convenience, will instantly discover, which principles are clearly understood, and correctly applied by the pupils, and which are those that require further explanation and study.

10th. The exercises for double translation (page 24) consisting of interesting pieces, easily remembered, and susceptible of being translated literally, or word for word, from either language into the other, presenting the French text on one page and the English opposite, with very convenient divisions for finding at once the corresponding ideas in the two languages, afford, when properly used, beside the advantage of interlinear translation, more efficacious and interesting means than any other arrangement, for the prompt acquisition of those words and phrases which are most frequently used.

The advantages of this plan will be more appreciated, when contrasted with the disadvantages of a method very extensively followed in the teaching of French in classes. A certain number of pupils of various ages, capacities, and acquirements, are formed together into a class, and receive three times a week, from a competent or incompetent teacher, a "French lesson" of half an hour or one hour. Before they are acquainted with the elements of pronunciation, I do not mean the names of letters, but the sounds and the various ways of representing them, they are requested, each pupil in his turn, to read a few lines of a French text. The teacher soon becomes as tired of correcting the mistakes which are continually uttered, as of giving explanations, which are often unintelligible and seldom attended to; he thus allows an abominable pronunciation to be heard by the class. The effect of such a course with respect to pronunciation can easily be imagined.

A portion of the text after having thus been horridly mangled, is ~~then~~ ordered to be translated into English, but the numerous misconstructions which are made by beginners, after having been directed to use, for assisting them in preparing their task, either an interlinear translation or a dictionary, are truly ludicrous; because, being generally requested to translate only from French into English, they soon accustom themselves merely to guess at the sense, and rely more on their imagination, than on a faithful and persevering industry. A portion of the hour, or half hour, is also devoted to correcting exercises on abstract and often unintelligible, or false rules, which many pupils do not even take the trouble to read or understand; and as no more attention is paid to the corrections of the mistakes, than to the application of the rules, the only result which can be expected from such a course, is a lamentable loss of time.

MODE OF USING THIS WORK, AND STUDYING FRENCH FOR ALL PURPOSES.

If the advantage of a teacher can be secured for a certain length of time, the following course is recommended :

A person having a good French pronunciation, after requesting the pupil or pupils to look at him occasionally; and notice how he will place the organs of speech, will form very slowly and distinctly all the elementary sounds, and compare them with sounds similar or nearly similar in English words. As soon as the pupil is able to imitate the teacher exactly in the formation of any of the sounds, he will be directed to repeat it carefully and several times in succession. All the compound syllables, words and portions of phrases, will be pronounced and repeated in the same manner.

The frequent pronouncing of the same sound, word, portion of phrase by the teacher, and the much more frequent repetition of the same by the pupil or class, must take place, in order to secure the attainment of the object in view.

The rules and directions concerning the French pronunciation having been read, the judicious teacher will ask a great number of questions in order to ascertain whether the pupils have correct views of all that relates to the subject of pronunciation. He will thus render less irksome, those very frequent repetitions of syllables and words, which are absolutely necessary to insure success.

The learner having sufficiently attended to the formation of the sounds, &c., is to begin to learn the text in the manner indicated at the bottom of pages 24 and 25. And he is again particularly recommended not to commit a lesson to memory, or translate it from English into French, before he

has been enabled to pronounce it as perfectly as his instructor. A long experience authorizes the assertion, that so minute an attention to pronunciation *at first*, very far from occasioning a loss, positively secures a considerable gain of time, both for the teacher and the pupil, or class.

The better to familiarize the pupil with the manner of speaking used by the French in common conversation, it is moreover proposed, that the teacher should read, sometimes slowly, sometimes rapidly, and even negligently, the lessons already well recited, and to submit for immediate viva voce translation by the class, portions of the said lessons taken at random, and variously combined.

Before learning a lesson by heart, or attempting its translation from English into French, let the pupils write the analysis of it in syllables, and put over each letter, or combination of letters, the figure which recalls its accurate sound, and use the various marks or signs agreed upon, to indicate the whispering of the second sound, the suppression, or particular sound of a letter, the junction of final consonants, the stress of the voice, &c., and thus enable his instructor to give him proper advice. This important exercise will promote the mental activity of the student, and lead to a great economy of the teacher's time and labor.

Whilst the pupil is acquiring a good pronunciation of French, and learning the text with the translation, (page 25) it is necessary that he should carefully attend to the study of the verbs, and to the object of the principal rules, such as the agreement of the verb with its nominative, of the adjective with its substantive, of the pronoun with the noun to which it refers, &c. He must, besides, make himself master of the phrases and words which may be deemed most commonly wanted, not forgetting the very important principle already recommended—never to commit any thing, or read French rapidly, but when able to pronounce it perfectly. But he is not to limit himself to the translating of a

great deal of French into English, and of English into French ; he must frequently devote a good portion of his time to a most useful exercise, which, if properly practised, will, more than any other, contribute to enable him to speak French fluently, at the same time that it will strengthen his mind, make it active, and store it with valuable knowledge : I mean, *relating in his own words, minutely, then succinctly, with varied and authorized equivalent expressions, after a proper analysis of the ideas, and a careful comparison of the two languages, the substance of the most interesting and instructive authors.* And to increase as much as possible, the advantages of this exercise, which must be made, often orally, and sometimes in writing, the pupil should not neglect to verify the accuracy of his narration, by comparing it with the original, or to submit it to a person competent to correct the mistakes, and give him proper advice. Having for some time followed the above recommended course, those who wish to obtain a thorough and critical knowledge of French will find the studying of the best grammars, and other works on that language, eminently useful and comparatively easy.

The pupil will have, in proper time, to answer questions like the following, the reading of which will render more intelligible the mode of using the present work.

QUESTIONS AND DIRECTIONS,

From which the mode of using this work and studying French successfully may be inferred.

Do you understand the difference between the name and the sound of a letter? Name the first letter of the word *sad*. Give the sound, not the name of its first letter. Name the second letter. Sound it. Give the sound of the same letter *a* in *fate*, in *fall*. Give the sound of *d* in *sad*, of *t* in *action*, of *g* in *judge*, of *u* in *judge*, in *put*, in *tube*. How many vowels are there? How many vowel sounds? How many consonant sounds? How is the first vowel sound represented? Give the first vowel sound—the 2d, 3d, 4th, &c. What are the equivalents of *a*? of *e*, of *é*, &c. What is the difference between the sound of *a* in *ma* and that of *a* in *bas*? of *é* and *è*? of *o* in *trop* and *ô* in *tôt*? How many simple syllables are there? What is the first? the 2d, 3d, &c.? What vowel sounds are peculiar to the French language? Does the sound of *a* in the French word *ma*, differ from that of *a* in *at*, in *far*? Give the sound of *a* in *fate*, the sound of *e* in *there*. What is the difference? Is the sound of *u* in the English word *duet* the same as that of *u* in *vu*? The 12th simple syllable consists of two sounds, which are they? The 13th simple syllable consists of two sounds, which are they? By which numbers would you indicate them? Do the sounds of the 12th syllable when united into a diphthong remain exactly the same? What do you say of the 7th and 9th vowel sounds, when rapidly pronounced together to form the 13th syllable? Which are the five French vowel sounds that are not found in English? Which are the two consonant sounds peculiar to French? What are the ~~two~~ of the English word *onion*, which represent a

consonant sound ~~said to~~ be nearly similar to that of *gn* in *ognon*? What are the letters of the English word *Seraglio* which represent a sound said to be similar to that of *il* in *serail*? Looking at the letters of the alphabet give the *sound* of each, not the name. Looking at the combinations of letters *ai, au, ei, ou, an, in, on, un, ph, gn, ill, bb*, give the sound which belongs to each. Give the sounds of the two consonants *bd, db, br, rb, bs, sb, bt, tb, &c.* Pronounce rapidly the three consonants *bst, bts, sbt*. Name the same. If you know perfectly which letters of any word must be taken in combination, and also the sound which must be given to each letter or combination of letters, is it difficult to divide that word into syllables? What is the end of a compound syllable? What is the beginning? When *n* or *m* is taken in combination with a preceding vowel, is it sounded? has it its proper sound? In the combination *eau*, are the *e*, the *a*, the *u* sounded? To which letter is the combination *eau* equivalent? What number will you put over the combination *eau* in a figured exercise, to show that you know the sound which it must receive? Do the combinations *ais, ait, aient* at the end of verbs represent the third sound close or open? Knowing that the thirteen simple syllables are the only terminations of the compound syllables, and that the beginning of a compound syllable must be one of the eighteen consonant sounds, could you tell how many syllables there are? And if you admit that the second vowel sound is always more or less heard between any two consonants or after a final consonant, can you tell what is the whole number of syllables in French? How many compound syllables can you make with *b*? How many can you make with *c, d, f, g, &c.*? Being able to form the thirteen compound syllables which can be made with *b*, and recollecting that the thirteen simple syllables are the only possible terminations of the compound syllables, will it be difficult to form those that can be made with the other consonant

sounds? Can you enumerate the difficulties that are to be overcome by a foreigner who wishes to read French well?

Is it more easy for a person whose vernacular tongue is English, and who has been studying French a short time, to translate a subject from French into English, or from English into French? Which of these two kinds of translation is to be more frequently practised, if the student's object is to acquire a prompt, positive and lasting knowledge of French for every purpose?

Of all the words belonging to any language, there are but a very limited number which are frequently combined together, and varied infinitely to form the most necessary phrases, whilst the greater portion of the others are very seldom used; this being admitted, it would almost be an insult to the meanest understanding to ask this question:—Which are the words that require an early and more particular attention?

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PRONUNCIATION.

FRENCH ALPHABET.

a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z.

VOWELS.

a e i o u y.

CONSONANTS.

b c d f g h j k l m n p q r s t v w x z.

LETTERS WITH ACCENTS, AND OTHER MARKS.

à á â é ê ë î ò ù û ë ï ü ç.

COMBINATIONS OF LETTERS.

There are simple sounds for which the French language has no single characters, such as the sounds of the combinations :

ou an in on un ch gn ill.

Combinations of letters are sometimes used to represent simple sounds, for which the French have single characters, such as : eu au eau ai ph, &c.

The letters of the French Alphabet may be named as in English be, ce, de, &c.; the important point is that the student should give each letter or combination of letters its proper sound. The SOUND of a letter must not be confounded with its NAME.

TABLE I.

Letters and Combinations of Letters representing

THE ELEVEN VOWEL SOUNDS,

Which, with the diphthongs *oi, oin*, form

THE THIRTEEN SIMPLE SYLLABLES.

1. a. à. â.	1 1 ^a ma. bas.	1 1 ^a at. father.
2. e. eu. êû. œu.	2 2 ^a a pre-neu-se	2 a judge.
3. é. è. ê. e. ai. âi. êi.	3 3 ^a dé-cès.	3 3 ^a fate. there.
4. i. î. y.	4 4 ci-git.	4 me.
5. o. ô. au. eau.	5 5 ^a œp-tôt.	5 5 ^a nor. over.
6. u. û. û.	6 vu.	6 duet.
7. ou. où. où.	7 cou.	7 cool.
8. an. am. en. em.	8 pan.	8 want.
9. in. im. ain. aim. ein. yn. ym. en. vin.	9 bon.	9 vanquish.
10. on. om.	10 brun.	10 conquer.
11. un. um.	11 loi.	11 rung.
12. oi. ôi. (= ou + a)	12 loin.	
13. oin. (= ou + in)	13	

For the same at the end of words, see page 4.

The same Vowel Sounds, or Simple Syllables, are often represented AT THE END OF WORDS, as follows:—

- | | |
|--|---------|
| 1. as, at. | |
| 2. es, eue, eues, eux, | *ent. |
| 3. aie, ée, ées, er, et, ets, ez, | *aient. |
| 4. ie, ies, ys, | *ient. |
| 5. aux, os, ots, aud, auds. | |
| 6. ue, ues, ût, ûts, | *uent. |
| 7. oue, oues, out, outs, oux, | *ouent. |
| 8. ant, ants, end, ends, ent, ents, ens. | |
| 9. ins, int, en, ens, ains, ainc, aincs, eins, eint. | |
| 10. ons, ont, ond, onds. | |
| 11. uns, ums. | |
| 12. ois, oit, ôit, oids, oie, oies. | *oient. |
| 13. oins, oint. | |

* At the end of the third person *plural* of verbs.

TABLE I EXPLAINED.

The figures 1, 1¹, 2, 2¹, 2, 3 &c., will recall the sounds of the letters, or combinations of letters, over which they are placed in the French words *ma*, *bas*, &c., viz:

1, will recall the first vowel sound close, or that of *a* in *ma*, nearly the sound of *a* in the English word *fat*.

1¹, will recall the first vowel sound open, or that of *a* in *bas*, nearly the sound of *a* in *father*.

2, the second vowel sound short, or that of the first *e* of *preneuse*, nearly that of *u* in *judge*.

2¹, the second vowel sound long, or that of the combination *eu*, in *preneuse*.

2, the second sound "*whispered*," or the very faint sound of *e* at the end of *preneuse* or *judge*.

3, the third vowel sound close, or that of *é* in *décès*, that of *a* in *fate*.

3^a, the third vowel sound open, or that of *è* in *décès*, that of *e* in *there*.

4, the fourth vowel sound long or short, that of *i* in *ci-gît*, of *e* in *me*.

5, the fifth vowel sound close, that of *o* in *trop*, nearly that of *o* in *nor*.

5^a, the fifth vowel sound open, that of *ò* in *tôt*, nearly that of *o* in *over*.

6, the sixth vowel sound long or short, that of *u* in *vu*, nearly that of *u* in the English word *duet*.

7, the seventh vowel sound short or long, that of *ou* in *cou*, nearly that of *oo* in *cool*.

8, the eighth vowel sound long or short, that of *an* in *pan*, nearly that of *an* in *want*, as some say.

9, the ninth vowel sound long or short, that of *in* in *vin*, nearly that of *an* in *vanquish*, as some fancy.

10, the tenth vowel sound long or short, that of *on* in *bon*, nearly that of *on* in *conquer*.

11, the eleventh vowel sound, long or short, that of *un* in *brun*, "nearly that of *un* in *rung*."

12, will recall the twelfth simple syllable, consisting of the seventh and first vowel sounds a little modified when united into a diphthong, as *oi* in *loi*.

13, the thirteenth simple syllable, consisting of the seventh and ninth vowel sounds united into a diphthong, as *oin* in *loin*.

Important Remarks and Directions relating to Table I,

When you are not able to determine whether a vowel sound is long or short, close or open, make it neither too long nor too short, neither too open nor too close.

é always represents the third vowel sound close.

â, è, é, ô, ait, aient, eau, always represent open and long sounds.

eu, eue, èu, æu, always represent the second sound long.

en at the beginning of words = 8. Ex.: *en-fin*.

en at the middle of words = 8 Ex.: *en-ten-de-ment*.

en at the end of words = 9. Ex.: *bi-en*.

ens, final = 9, when *s* is the mark of the plural. Ex.: *mien, miens*.

ens, final = 9, in the verbs *tenir, venir* and their compounds.

Never make the sound of *a, i, o*, so close as in, *fat, fit, hot*.

A diæresis on a vowel indicates that that vowel must be sounded by itself, so *au* are sounded like *a*, and *u*.

The English words *at, father, &c.*, are merely given as means of comparison and association, to enable the pupil to proceed from what he knows to what he is to learn, and must be dispensed with, as soon as the sounds are well mastered.

To facilitate the recollection of the various ways of representing the simple syllables, remember, 1st. that *e final* coming after a vowel may be considered as null, or that it only serves to lengthen the vowel sound given to the preceding letter, or combination of letters: 2d. that final consonants, with the exception of *c, f, l, r*, generally are not sounded: 3d. see remarks on *ent*, page 7.

REMARKS ON *E, ES, ENT*.

(The figures refer to the Standard words, Table I.)

e = 2 when before two consonants the second of which is *r*.

Ex.: *regret*.

e = 3^a when before *rr*. Ex.: *terre*.

e = 3^a when before several consonants. Ex.: *respects*.

e = 3^s when before a final consonant other than *s*. Ex.: *ciel, avec, pied.*

e = 3^s in monosyllables ending in a consonant. Ex.: *des, ces, est, les, mes, ses, tes, &c.*

e = 1, or *a*, before the *m̃m* of the termination *emment*. Ex.: *récemment.*

es = ² when it is the termination of words of two syllables or more. Ex.: *places, êtes, &c.*

ent when ending the third person plural of verbs, is equivalent to *e*, and therefore either represents the second vowel sound short, 2, or serves to lengthen the vowel sound of the preceding letter or combination of letters. Ex.: *ils aiment, ils prient.*

ent when not ending the third person plural of verbs, generally represents the eighth vowel sound. Ex.: *comm ent, sentiment, sent.*

ent = 9, in the termination *ient* of the verbs *tenir, venir*, and their compounds. Ex.: *il tient, vient.*

e = 3, in the conjunction *et* (and,) and the *t* is never sounded, not even when the following word begins with a vowel.

e without an accent, when before *a, o*, is null.

REMARKS ON THE LETTER Y.

The letter *Y* when between two vowels in the same word, or only preceded by a vowel, is equivalent to *i, i*; one *i* is taken with the preceding vowel to form a combination, which must receive its proper sound, the other *i* is sounded by itself, and may form a diphthong with the following vowel sound. Ex.: *ayant = ai-i-ant, pays = pai-is.*

REMARKS ON THE FINAL COMBINATIONS

er, ez, ai, ais, ait, aient, ect.

er, ez, ai, } taken in combination at the end of words, represent the third vowel sound close. (3) Ex.: *aimer, avez, j'aurai.*

ais, ait, aient, } at the end of words, represent the third vowel sound open. (3^a) Ex.: *j'avais, il avait, ils avaient.*

ect, final, = 3^a.

The above rules may be used as if they were without exceptions.

When the letter *r* of the termination *er* is sounded, the sound of the *e* is not so close as that of *é* in *décès*, nor so open as that of *è* in the same word.

REMARKS ON THE FRENCH DIPHTHONGS.

When two vowel sounds can be uttered easily "by a single emission of the voice," they generally form "a Diphthong."

ia form a diphthong in the word *lia* and others.

ia do not form a diphthong in the word *cria* and others.

The diphthongs *oi, oin*, which may be called *irregular*, are placed among the simple syllables. The diphthong *oi* which sounds as in *loi*, nearly like *ou-a* consists of the 7th and 1st vowel sounds, and is the 12th simple syllable.

The diphthong *oin*, which sounds as in *loin*, like *ou-in*, consists of the 7th and 9th vowel sounds, and forms the 13th simple syllable.

All the other diphthongs may be called regular. They can be easily read by any person perfectly acquainted with the various ways of representing the vowel sounds. Ex.:

4-1 4-5 4-2^a 7-3 7-3^a 6-1 6-4 6-8 4-9.

i-a. i-au. i-eu. ou-ai. ou-aient. u-a. u-i. u-an. i-en.

TABLE II.

Letters and Combinations of Letters representing
THE EIGHTEEN FRENCH CONSONANT SOUNDS.

- B**, sounds as in English.
C, hard before *a, o, u*, sounds as in English, like *k*.
C, soft before *e, i, y*, sounds as in English, like hard *s*.
C, when before a consonant, or at the end of words, like *k*.
ç, with a cedilla under it, sounds like *s* hard.
Ch, this combination sounds like *sh* in *shad*, *ch* in *chaise*.
D, sounds as in English.
F, sounds as in English.
G, hard before *a, o, u*, or a consonant, as *g* hard in English.
G, always soft before *e, i, y*, sounds like French *j*.
Gn, this combination sounds as in the French word *ognon*.
H, said to be "mute," or "aspirate," is never sounded.
J, sounds as in *je*, very nearly like *s* in *pleasure*.
K, sounds as in English.
L, sounds as in English, *when not "liquid."*
L, *liquid* ("*l mouillé*") and its equivalents *ill*, or *ll*, or *il*, sound as in the French words *Avril*, *aille*, *fille*, *serail*.
M, sounds as in English, } when not taken in combination
N, sounds as in English, } with the preceding letter or letters.
P, sounds as in English.
Ph, this combination is equivalent to *f*.
Q, and the combination *qu*, as in English, like *k*.
R, as in English, but more forcibly articulated.
S, hard at the beginning of words, and when doubled, like *s* in *sad*.
S, soft when between two vowels, sounds like *z*.
T, and the combination *th*, as *t* in English.
V, as in English.

W, sounds like *v*, or like the combination *ou*, 7th vowel sound.

X, as in English, like *ks*, *k*, *gz*, *s*, *z*.

Z, as in English.

REMARKS ON CONSONANTS AND CONSONANT SOUNDS.

Ch, are sometimes equivalent to *k* as in *écho*.

Ch = *k* when followed by a consonant, Ex.: *Christ*.

G, in English, is sometimes hard before *e*, *i*, *y*, as in *get*, *giddy*, &c.; but *g* in French is always soft, and equivalent to the French *j*, or *s* in *pleasure*, when before *e*, *i*, *y*.

Ge, are often taken in combination to represent the soft sound of *g*, as in *jugea*, *mangea*, *mangeons*.

Gn, the sound of the combination *gn* is that of *gn* in *ognon*, nearly that of *ni*, as some assert, in the English word *onion*.

Gn, are sometimes sounded separately. Ex.: *mag-nats*, the *g* and the *n* having then each its proper sound.

Gu, are most generally taken in combination to represent the hard sound of *g* as in *glad*. Ex.: *fatigue*.

Gu, are sometimes sounded separately. Ex.: *aiguiser*, *aiguille*.

H, "mute," is entirely null. Ex.: *l'homme*, *l'héroïne*, *inhumain*.

H, "aspirate," is not sounded; it only serves to prevent the elision of the preceding vowel, and the union of the preceding consonant with the vowel which follows *h*. Ex.: *le héros*.

Ill. The sound of this combination which the French call the sound of *l* "mouillé," (liquid *l*), is that which is

- heard after the sound of *a* in the French word *ail*, nearly that of *gl*, as some assert, in the word *Seraglio*. The "liquid" sound of *l* is also represented by *ll, il, l*.
- Ill** at the beginning of words are never taken in combination; they are sounded separately. Ex.: *illustre*. Some persons use instead of the sound of liquid *l*, a sound approaching that of *i* very long, or *y* in year. Ex.: for *fille* they say *fi-ye*.
- M** or **N**, when final, or found before another consonant, forms with the preceding vowel or vowels, a combination representing the 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, or 13th simple syllable.
- Qu**, are most generally taken as a combination representing the sound *k*; the *u* that comes after *q* sometimes receives its proper sound, as in *questeur*, and in very few words is equivalent to *ou*, as in *quadrupède*.
- R**, must be much more strongly articulated than in English, particularly in the middle and at the end of words.
- R** is sounded in the termination *ert*, and in the termination of verbs *ers*.
- R** generally is not sounded in the plural termination *ers* of nouns and adjectives, which have *er* in the singular number. **R** is silent in *volontiers*.
- S**, between two vowels, with very few exceptions, sounds like *z*.
- S**, after or before a consonant, is hard, as in *sad*.
- SS** are equivalent to *s* hard.
- T**, in the terminations of nouns *tion, tions*, and in some other cases, is equivalent to *s* hard. Ex.: *portion, patient, minutie, &c.*, and derivatives.
- Th**, always sound like *t*.

Of two consonants alike in succession, only one generally is sounded: so *bb=b, dd=d, ff=f, cca=ca, cco=co, ccu=cu*,

gga=*ga*; but *ccé*=*ksé*, *cci*=*ksi*, *ggé*=*gjé*, &c., because *c* and *g* are hard before a consonant, and soft before *c*, *i*, *y*.

Final consonants generally, are not sounded before a word beginning with a consonant, nor at the end of a phrase, or member of phrase.

The consonants are not so strongly sounded in French as in English, except *r*.

A consonant sound is the beginning, never the end of a compound syllable.

When a consonant is sounded before another consonant, or at the end of a word, which is before another word beginning with a consonant, it may be considered as forming a compound syllable with the very faint sound of *e*, as heard at the end of *preneuse*; ex.: *g'lad'*, *a-r'b're*, *i-l'*. This being admitted, the largest possible number of compound syllables in French would only be 18 times 13, or 234; because the beginning of a compound syllable can only be one of the 18 consonant sounds, and the termination must be one of the 13 simple syllables. The whole number of *vocal* syllables would consequently be 247, which are exhibited in table III (page 13.) This is mentioned only to show that the difficulty of reading French, when a proper method is used, is not so great as some imagine.

A single glance at page 13, will convince any one of the facility with which the pronunciation of all the syllables, and consequently of all the words of the French language, can be acquired, when the elementary sounds, and the various ways of representing them, exhibited in tables I and II, have once been mastered.

TABLE III.

ALL THE SYLLABLES OF THE FRENCH
LANGUAGE.*The Simple Syllables.*

2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
e	é	i	o	u	ou	an	in	on	un	ai	oin

The Compound Syllables.

a	be	bé	bi	bo	bu	bou	ban	bin	bon	bun	boi	boin
i	—	—	—	co	cu	cou	can	—	con	eun	coi	cotin
z	ce	cé	ci	ço	çu	çou	çan	cin	çon	çun	çoi	—
ba	che	ché	chi	cho	chu	chou	chan	chin	chon	chun	choi	—
a	de	dé	di	do	du	dou	dan	din	don	dun	doi	doin
i	fe	fé	fi	fo	fu	fou	fan	fin	fon	fun	foi	foin
z	gue	gué	gui	go	gu	gou	gan	guin	gon	gun	goi	goin
ca	ge	gé	gi	geo	—	—	gean	gin	geon	—	geoi	—
na	gne	gné	gni	gno	gnu	gnou	gnan	gnin	gnon	gnun	gnoi	—
a	he	hé	hi	ho	hu	hou	han	hin	hon	hun	hoi	hoin
i	je	jé	ji	jo	ju	jou	jan	jin	jon	jun	joi	joia
a	ke	ké	ki	ko	ku	kou	kan	kin	kon	kun	koi	koin
i	le	lé	li	lo	lu	lou	lan	lin	lon	lun	loi	loin
la	ille	illé	illi	illo	illu	illou	illan	illin	illon	illun	illoi	—
a	me	mé	mi	mo	mu	mou	man	min	mon	mun	moi	moin
a	ne	né	ni	no	nu	nou	nan	nin	non	nun	noi	noin
a	pe	pé	pi	po	pu	pou	pan	pin	pon	pun	poi	poin
la	que	qué	qui	quo	qu'u	qu'ou	quan	quin	quon	qu'un	quai	—
i	re	ré	ri	ro	ru	rou	ran	rin	ron	run	roi	roin
i	se	sé	si	so	su	sou	san	sin	son	sun	soi	soin
i	te	té	ti	to	tu	tou	tan	tin	ton	tun	toi	toin
i	ve	vé	vi	vo	vu	vou	van	vin	von	vun	voi	voin
i	xe	xé	xi	xo	xu	xou	xan	xin	xon	xun	xoi	xoin
i	ze	zé	zi	zo	zu	zou	zan	zin	zon	zun	zoi	zoin

Particular attention must be given to the lines printed in italicks.

REMARKS ON TABLE III.

The figures 1, 2, 3, &c., refer to the simple syllables, and must recall their sounds, as well as all their equivalents, or various ways of representing them—pages 3 and 4.

Each letter, or combination of letters, representing a consonant sound, and forming the beginning of each compound syllable, in said table, must be sounded agreeably to the directions given pages 9, 10, and 11.

In requiring from the pupil the frequent repetition of all the syllables, the teacher must be careful to familiarize him with the various modifications of pronunciation, of which some of them are susceptible. The attainment of this desideratum will be facilitated by directions like the following:—Utter all the syllables of the first vertical column (table III) sounding the *a* as in *ma*, then as *a* in *bas*. Read the second column, supposing the *e* to be followed by two consonants, for instance *rr*, *bs*, *rn*, in which case *e* will be sounded nearly like *è* in *décès*. Read the same column *be*, *ce*, *de*, &c., supposing the *e* to be followed by two consonants the second of which is *r*, for instance *tr*, *br*, *pr*, &c., in which case *e* will represent the second vowel sound short, &c.

FOR DIVIDING WORDS INTO SYLLABLES,

Attend to the following Rules and Remarks.

A SIMPLE SYLLABLE consists of one vowel sound, or one of the irregular diphthongs *oi*, *oin*. (See table I.)

A COMPOUND SYLLABLE consists of either one, or two, or three, or even four consonant sounds prefixed to one of the thirteen simple syllables. Ex.: *ra*, *tra*, *stra*, *bstra*. As was observed before, page 12, a consonant sounded before another consonant, might be considered as forming a compound syllable with the second vowel sound very faint.

The beginning of a compound syllable must be a consonant sound, although it may be a vowel letter, i for instance, since ~~ill~~ may be taken in combination to represent the sound of "liquid l."

The end of a compound syllable must always be a *vowel sound*, although it may be a consonant letter, since the combinations *an*, *in*, *on*, *un*, and others, are used to represent vowel sounds. (No exception whatever.)

A final consonant, which is not silent, forms, as already stated, a compound syllable with the second vowel sound very faint. So *fi-l* has two syllables, like *fi-le*.

M, or N, or any other consonant between two vowels, always belongs to the ~~preceding~~ vowel or vowels, with which it forms a compound syllable. Ex: *a-mi*.

M, or N, when final, or followed by *another* consonant, is taken with the preceding vowel or vowels, with which it forms a combination representing, either the 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, or 13th, simple syllable. Ex: *en-fin*; *lam-pe*; *loin-tain*; *in-stru-ment*.

M M, and N N, between two vowels, are equivalent to one *m* or one *n*, and form a compound syllable with the following letter, or combination of letters.

The letters *m* and *n* when found in succession, in the same word, have each its proper sound. Ex.: *ca-lo-mnie*.

Division of AILL, EUILL, EILL, OUILL, into Syllables.

When, in the same word, the following letters *ail*, *euill*, *eill*, *ouill*, are found in succession, *a* represents the 1st simple syllable, *eu* the 2d, *e* the 3d, and *ou* the 7th, whilst *ill* are taken in combination to represent the sound of "liquid l," preceded by *a*, *eu*, *e*, or *ou*, which then represent, viz: *a* the first, *eu* the second, *e* the third, *ou* the seventh vowel sound or simple syllable.

Examples: *a-ille*; *feu-ille*; *ve-ille*; *fou-ille*.

Division of AIL, EUIL, EIL, OUIL, AILS, final.

Il, and *ils* at the end of words are taken in combination to represent the sound of "liquid l," when preceded by *a*, *eu*,

e, or *ou*, which then represent, viz: *a* the 1st, *eu* the 2d, *e* the 3d, *ou* the 7th vowel sound or simple syllable.

Examples: *a-il*; *seu-il*; *so-le-il*; *fe-nou-il*.

Division of CUEIL, GUEIL into syllables.

When the letters *cueil*, *gueil*, *cueill*, *gueill*, are found in succession in the same word, *u* is silent, and only serves to indicate that *c* and *g* are hard; whilst *e* represents the 2d vowel sound long, and *il* or *ill* are taken in combination to represent the sound of "liquid *l*." Examples: *re-cue-il*; *cue-illi-r*; *o-rgue-il*; *a-ccue-il*.

ACCENT OR STRESS OF THE VOICE.

To pronounce a word well, it is not sufficient to give each letter, or combination of letters, its proper sound, and to make an accurate division of its syllables; it is also very important to place the stress of the voice on that syllable which must receive it.

The best rule that can be proposed to enable the student to place the stress of the voice properly, is the following:

The stress of the voice must be placed on the last syllable of every French word. Ex.: *di-ffé-RENT*, *fa-ci-li-TA*, *COMMENT*.

It is hardly necessary to mention, as an exception, that when a word ends in *e*, *es*, or *ent*, representing the 2d vowel sound very faint, or "whispered," the stress is on the preceding syllable. Ex.: *pre-NEU-se*; *fa-ci-le*.

The stress of the voice or accent, which is much weaker in French than in English, is hardly ever mentioned by the teachers of French: and some persons go so far as to assert, that all the syllables of a French word are pronounced with the same stress, but this assertion is altogether unfounded. A French person but little advanced in English, may be observed always to place the stress of the voice on the last

syllable of every English word, because he is accustomed to do the same in his own language. An English person but little acquainted with French, will be led by habit, and the analogy of his own tongue, to accent French words inaccurately. In the phrase *comment vous portez-vous?* for instance, he will place the stress very forcibly at the beginning of the words *comm-ent* and *port-ez*. He will accent the first syllable of the words *DIFF-érent*, *OFF-icier*, *AN-imal*, *QUANT-ité*, *VOUL-ez-vous?* *AV-ez-vous?* &c., whilst the French accent the last.

Placing the stress of the voice inaccurately is as ridiculous, as intolerable in one language as in the other. The student, in order to avoid accenting French words as English words, must practise very frequently the exercise of dividing words into syllables, and carefully apply the rule—*Place the stress of the voice on the last syllable.*

SUPPRESSION OF THE SECOND VOWEL SOUND.

In conversation and familiar reading, suppress, or rather pronounce very faintly, or *whisper* the second vowel sound short, where you can whisper it easily, when euphony, or emphasis does not forbid it—as the last *e* of *preneuse*, which is marked *.

Never whisper the 2d vowel sound when it is represented by *eu, êu, eue, eues*.

Do not whisper the 2d vowel sound twice in succession; so, do not say: *Je n' l' sais pas*; say: *Je n' le sais pas*.

Do not whisper the 2d vowel sound after two consonants sounded: so, do not say: *Gouvern'ment* for *gouvernement*.

Do not whisper the 2d vowel sound at the beginning of a phrase, or member of phrase: so, do not say *J' ne sais pas*, say: *Je n' sais pas*.

It is particularly recommended to foreigners to “whisper” the 2d vowel sound when they can do it easily, because the

natives of France, even those who boast of using the best pronunciation, are in the habit of whispering it; and it is obvious, that, if both natives and foreigners pronounce in the same manner, they will understand each other much more readily.

SUPPRESSION OF THE SOUND OF L, LS.

A great majority of the French are also in the habit of suppressing in common conversation the sound of *l* in the pronouns *il*, *ils*, *quelque*, *cela*, and in *elle* *elles* followed by *ne*: so, instead of *il sait*, *elle ne sait*, *quelque chose*, *quelqu'un*, *cela &c.*, they often say *i'sait*, *e'n'sait*, *qu'qu'chose*, *qu'qu'un*, *ça*. Such suppressions are universally condemned, but as they are universally made, foreigners must be taught to understand them.

CONNEXION OF WORDS.

A final consonant is generally pronounced with the vowel sound which begins the next word; but this connexion must not take place; first, when there is a pause between the two words indicated by punctuation or by the sense; secondly, when the next word begins with *h* aspirate; thirdly, when the ear could be unpleasantly affected by such a connexion.

When *d*, *f*, *g*, *s*, *x* are to be joined to the vowel which begins the next word, *d* sounds like *t*, *f* like *v*, *g* like *k*, *s* like *z*, *x* like *z*.

Ex.: grand_homme; sang_et eau; neuf_ans; les_os; aux_eaux.

TONES AND INFLECTIONS.

Whoever wishes to pronounce French with the tones and inflections, which belong to that language, must frequently, and very attentively listen to those who speak, and read it properly, and then try to imitate them closely. No better direction can be given on the subject.

KEY TO THE PRONUNCIATION OF PAGE 20.

And Signs for the Figured Exercises.

The numeral signs 1, 2, 3, 4, &c., recall the thirteen simple syllables, or the vowel sounds found in the standard words, *ma, bas, pre-neuse, &c.*, page 3.

14, recalls the sound of *ch* as in *chaise*, *sh* in *shad*.

15, recalls the sound of French *j*, of *s* in *pleasure*.

16, recalls the sound of *gn*, as in the French word *ognon*.

17, recalls the sound of *l'mouillé*, as in *a-il*.

², indicates the "whispering" of the 2d vowel sound short.

o, indicates the total nullity of a letter;

—, the union of a final consonant with the next vowel sound.

—, between two figures, indicates the union of two vowel sounds into a diphthong.

+, indicates that, contrary to rules, a consonant is to be sounded, or that two consonants alike are both to be articulated.

A consonant placed over another consonant, or over a combination of letters, indicates the sound of either.

A consonant over which there is no mark, must be sounded as in English, except where it is to be taken in combination with the preceding letter, or when some rule requires a different articulation.

In page 20, a consonant before which a hyphen is placed must be sounded. Ex.: *co-r, a-ve-c*. In the same page a final consonant which is not separated from the preceding vowel by a hyphen, is not to be sounded, for in such a case it is taken in combination with that vowel. Ex.: *est, in-stru-ment, voi-x*.

A great deal more could be said on the subject of pronunciation; but it would only serve to perplex and mislead the student. The teacher must explain the difficulties as they occur.

EXAMPLE OF SYLLABIC DIVISION, AND FIGURED EXERCISES.

(See Page 24.) 2 5 3^s 1 2 3^s 11 9 6
Le co-r des A-lpes est un in-stru-
8 3^s 1 3^s 3 5 ^s 6 ^s 4 4-3 4 5 ^s 2
ment fait a-ve-c l'é-co-rce du ce-ri-si-er, qui co-mme le
5 2 12 3^s 1 5 3 3^s 10 1 6 ^s 8 ^s
po-rté-voix, se-rt à po-rtier les sons à u-ne gran-de
4 8 ^s 8 3^s 3^s 4-3^s 3^s 4-10 3^s 4-10 6
di-stan-ce. Quand les de-rni-ers ray-ons (rai-i-ons) du
5 3^s ^s 5 ^s 2 5 3^s 3^s 1 ^s 2 1^s 2 6
so-le-il do-rent le so-mmet des A-lpes, le pâ-tre qui
1 4 ^s 8 12 ^s 6 3 ^s 3 ^s 3^s 10 1 ^s 8
ha-bi-te l'en-droit le plus é-le-vé de ces mon-ta-gnes prend
10 5 3 4 1 5 ^s 12 3 4 12 ^s 3^s 2^s
son co-r, et crie à hau-te voix: Bé-ni soit le Sei-gneu-r
5^s 4 5^s 4 1 3 3 8 8 6 3^s 1 2 12 9
Au-si-tôt qu'il a é-té en-ten-du, les pâ-tres voi-sins
4 ^s 2^s 1 1 ^s 3 3 3^s ^s 3^s 5^s 3^s
qui-ttent leu-rs ca-ba-nes, et ré-pè-tent ces mots. Les
10 6 ^s 6 4-2^s 4 6 ^s 1 7 3^s 3 5
sons du-rent plu-si-eu-rs mi-nu-tes, ca-r tous les é-chos,
3 7 ^s 3^s 5 ^s 3^s 5 14 3^s 3 3^s ^s 2 10 2
et tou-tes les gro-ttes des ro-chers ré-pè-tent le nom de
4-2^s
Di-eu.

Words of the text, which form exceptions to the preceding
rules on pronunciation. (The pages are indicated.)

3 ° + ° °+ ° °
Page 28. *sais.* *compter.* *mer.* 32. *fiis.* *fiis.* 34. *mon-sieur.*
2 8 + + 6 2
faisait. 34. *ennui.* 38. *Termosiris.* 42. *fer.* 48. *eu.* 50. *dessous.*
° + + ++ °
52. *fusil.* 54. *Minos.* 58. *dot.* 60. *immo-le-rai.* 62. *blancs,*
+ 2 + 2 5
lis. 72. *bienfaisant.* 74. *hélas.* 76. *ressource.* 78. *poignard.*
° 2 6 1 +
82. *chefs-d'œuvre.* 86. *faisant.* *cut.* *femme.* 88. *Arcésius.*

ERRATA.

Page vi, line 2, erase then.

"	7,	"	14,	instead of ent,	read	ent final.
"	26,	"	4,	" habitants,	"	habitants.
"	"	"	10,	" différens,	"	différents.
"	"	"	11,	" pue,	"	que.
"	"	"	15,	" parait,	"	paraît.
"	"	"	16,	" gardez vous,	"	gardez-vous.
"	"	"	32,	" La,	"	le.
"	"	"	33,	" fut,	"	fût.
"	28,	"	2,	" puisque,	"	puisque.
"	"	"	13,	" ce,	"	ces.
"	29,	"	17,	" we,	"	you.
"	30,	"	13,	no comma after genou.		
"	"	"	24,	instead of lui même,	"	lui-même.
"	32,	"	5,	" avoit,	"	avait.
"	34,	"	22,	" pàtois,	"	patois.
"	"	"	40,	" long temps,	"	long-temps.
"	35,	"	13,	comma after fresh.		
"	36,	"	2,	period instead of semi-colon after plus.		
"	"	"	2,	instead of l'autre,	read	L'autre.
"	"	"	2,	" il,	"	Il.
"	"	"	17,	" blâmez moi,	"	blâmez-moi.
"	"	"	23,	period instead of coma after esprit.		
"	"	"	30,	comma after l'ennui.		
"	"	"	33,	comma after pas.		
"	"	"	34,	comma after moi.		
"	"	"	38,	semi-colon instead of comma after ridé.		
"	37,	"	1,	colon instead of period after crazy.		
"	"	"	2,	instead of The exhausted; read the exhausted.		
"	"	"	2,	" another,	"	Another.
"	40,	"	14,	" êtes vous,	"	êtes-vous.

- Page 40, line 16, instead of et son, read et sur son.
- “ “ “ 42, “ parcequ’, “ parce qu’.
- “ 42, “ 31, for disparurent, read les virent disparaître
- “ 43, “ 31, “ disappeared, “ saw them disappear.
- “ 44, “ 35, comma after nom.
- “ 48, “ 12, instead of comm anda, read commanda.
- “ “ “ 38, comma after travail
- “ 49, “ 12, instead of t hat, read that.
- “ 50, “ 1, “ ferai je, “ ferai-je.
- “ “ “ 35, “ long temps, “ long-temps.
- “ 51, “ 28, “ failing, “ failing in.
- “ 54, “ 37, “ parceque, “ parce que.
- “ 58, “ 11, “ certain, “ certain.
- “ “ “ 20, “ rendez m’, “ rendez-m’.
- “ “ “ 28, “ dit il, “ dit-il.
- “ “ “ 34, “ cinq-cents, “ cinq cents.
- “ 60, “ 15, “ s’ecriait il, “ s’ecriait-il.
- “ “ “ 34, comma after cherchent.
- “ 62, “ 2, instead of ccablé, read accablé.
- “ 64, “ 1, comma after blancheur.
- “ 68, “ 41, instead of Sotises, read Sottises.
- “ 70, “ 5, “ anciem, “ ancien.
- “ 72, “ 39, “ sa bonne, “ et sa bonne.
- “ 76, “ 15, “ menacaient, “ menagaient.
- “ “ “ 42, “ Isaphan, “ Ispahan.
- “ 77, “ 35, “ other, “ other again.
- “ 82, “ 3, “ ortographe, “ orthographe.
- “ “ “ 26, “ ordannance, “ ordonnance.
- “ “ “ 35, “ présen, “ présent.
- “ 84, “ 17, “ puis qu’, “ puisqu’.
- “ 90, “ 19, comma after force.
- “ 94, “ 8, comma after mémoire.
- “ “ 13, comma after temps.

SELECT PIECES,

ARRANGED

FOR DOUBLE TRANSLATION,

FROM FRENCH INTO ENGLISH,

AND

FROM ENGLISH INTO FRENCH.

LE COR DES ALPES.

1 Le cor des Alpes | est un instrument | fait avec
 2 l'écorce du cerisier, | qui, | comme le porte-voix,
 3 sert à porter les sons | à une grande distance.
 4 Quand les derniers rayons | du soleil | dorent
 5 le sommet des Alpes, | le pâtre qui habite
 6 l'endroit le plus élevé | de ces montagnes, | prend
 7 son cor, | et crie à haute voix: | Béni soit le Seigneur !
 8 Aussitôt qu'il a été entendu, | les pâtres voisins
 9 quittent leurs cabanes, | et répètent ces mots. | Les sons
 10 durent plusieurs minutes, | car tous les échos, | et
 11 toutes les grottes | des rochers | répètent le nom | de Dieu.
 12 Quelle scène ! | Peut on imaginer | quelque chose
 13 de plus solennel ! Le profond silence | qui succède,
 14 le spectacle | de ces énormes montagnes | sur lesquelles
 15 la voûte des cieux | semble reposer, | tout élève
 16 l'âme à l'enthousiasme. | —Cependant | les bergers
 17 plient le genou, | et prient | en plein air,
 18 et bientôt après, | ils se retirent | dans leurs
 19 cabanes, | pour jouir du repos | de l'innocence.

20 AVANTAGE DE LA RELIGION.

21 Le triomphe de la Religion, | dit Bélisaire,
 22 est de consoler l'homme | dans l'heure de
 23 l'adversité, | et de mêler | les douceurs du plaisir
 24 dans la coupe | qui contient | les amertumes
 25 de la vie. | Qui l'éprouve | mieux que moi ? | Accablé
 26 de vieillesse, | privé de la vue, | sans amis,
 27 abandonné à moi-même, | ne voyant devant moi
 28 que la douleur | et la tombe, | si je perdais
 29 l'espérance | que j'ai placée | dans le ciel,
 30 que me resterait-il ? | Le désespoir. | L'homme de bien
 31 est avec Dieu, | il est assuré | que Dieu l'aime ;
 32 ce sentiment secret | lui donne de la force,
 33 et le remplit de joie | au milieu de ses afflictions.

Mode of Reciting by Heart.

Le cor des Alpes | The Alpine Horn | est un instrument |
 is an instrument, &c., or The Alpine Horn | Le cor des Alpes |
 is an instrument | est un instrument. If the pupil is only re-
 quested to translate, he must give the French, when looking on
 the English, or the English, when looking on the French.

THE ALPINE HORN.

1 The Alpine Horn | is an instrument | made with
 2 the bark of the cherry tree, | which, | like a speaking trumpet,
 3 is used to convey sounds | to a great distance.
 4 When the last rays | of the sun | gild
 5 the summit of the Alps, | the shepherd who dwells on
 6 the most elevated spot | of these mountains, | takes
 7 his horn, | and calls aloud : | Blessed be the Lord !
 8 As soon as he has been heard, | the neighbouring shepherds
 9 leave their huts, | and repeat those words. | The sounds
 10 last several minutes, | for all the echoes, | and
 11 all the grottos | of the rocks | repeat the name | of God.
 12 What a scene ! | Can one imagine | any thing
 13 more solemn ? | The profound silence | that succeeds,
 14 the spectacle | of these enormous mountains | on which
 15 the vault of heaven | seems to rest, | every thing excites
 16 the soul to enthusiasm. |—In the meanwhile | the shepherds
 17 bend their knees, | and pray | in the open air,
 18 and soon after, | they retire | into their
 19 huts, | to enjoy the repose | of innocence.

0 ADVANTAGE OF RELIGION.

1 The triumph of Religion, | said Belisarius,
 2 is to comfort man | in the hour of
 3 adversity, | and to mingle | the sweets of pleasure
 4 in the cup | which contains | the bitterness
 5 of life. | Who experiences it | better than I ? | Overwhelmed
 6 with old age, | deprived of sight, | without friends,
 7 abandoned to myself, | seeing before me
 8 only affliction, | and the grave, | if I lost
 9 the hope | which I have placed | in heaven,
 10 what would remain to me ? | Despair. | The good man
 11 is with God, | he feels assured | that God loves him;
 12 this consciousness | gives him strength,
 13 and fills him with joy | in the midst of his affliction.

A lesson will consist of a certain number of lines to be
 learned by heart in French and English, or translated correctly,
 without hesitation, from one language into the other, but much
 more frequently from English into French. The pupil must
 not learn a lesson before he is able to pronounce it as perfectly
 as his teacher.

LA TORTUE ET LES DEUX CANARDS.

1 Une tortue | lasse d'être | toujours enfermée
 2 dans son écaille, | prit la résolution | de voyager
 3 pour voir différents pays, | et pour connaître
 4 les mœurs des habitans. | Elle communiqua
 5 son dessein | à deux canards. | Commère,
 6 lui dirent-ils, | nous pouvons vous satisfaire ;
 7 nous vous porterons | par l'air | en Amérique ;
 8 vous verrez | dans votre passage | plusieurs royaumes
 9 et plusieurs républiques ; | vous remarquerez
 10 les mœurs | des différens peuples qui
 11 les habitent. — | Que faut-il pue je fasse ? —
 12 Vous n'avez qu'à tenir | ce bâton | par le milieu
 13 dans votre bouche, | et chacun de nous
 14 en prendra un bout. | — De tout mon cœur ;
 15 cela me paraît | très aisé, | dit la tortue. —
 16 Gardez vous bien de | lâcher prise. | — Ne craignez pas,
 17 j'y prendrai garde. | — Tenez bien le bâton. —
 18 Je le tiens, | partons. | — Ils partent, tortue,
 19 canards et bâton. | Ils n'eurent pas volé
 20 très-haut, | qu'un corbeau | rencontrant les voyageurs
 21 demanda aux canards | ce qu' ils portaient.
 22 — La reine des tortues. | La reine des tortues !
 23 — Vraiment oui, | je la suis, | répliqua le sot animal ;
 24 et en répliquant, | elle lâcha le bâton ; et
 25 tombant sur un rocher, | elle fut mise en pièces.

26

HÉROÏSME.

27 Un capitaine Hollandais | nommé Schaffelaar
 28 occupait la forteresse | de Barneveldt :
 29 il fut assiégé | et sommé de se rendre, | mais
 30 il ne voulut capituler, | que lorsque la brèche
 31 fut faite ; | alors il consentit | à se rendre.
 32 La premier article | de la capitulation | exigeait que
 33 le capitaine | fut jeté | du haut de la tour,
 34 ce qui excita | l'indignation des assiégés, | qui
 35 jurèrent tous | de mourir | plutôt que d'accéder
 36 à une telle condition ; | mais le généreux Schaffelaar
 37 grim pant | sur un des créneaux, | leur cria ;
 38 " Mes amis, | il faut que je meure | un jour, | et

THE TORTOISE AND THE TWO DUCKS.

1 A tortoise | weary of being | always shut up
 2 in her shell, | took the resolution | to travel
 3 to see different countries, | and to know
 4 the manners of the inhabitants. | She communicated
 5 her design | to two ducks. | Gossip,
 6 said they to her, | we can satisfy you ;
 7 we will carry you | through the air | to America :
 8 you will see | in your passage | several kingdoms
 9 and several republics ; | you will remark
 10 the manners | of the different people who
 11 inhabit them. | —What must I do?—
 12 You have only to hold | this stick | by the middle
 13 in your mouth, | and each of us
 14 will take an end.—With all my heart ;
 15 this appears to me | very easy, | said the tortoise.—
 16 Be sure not | to let go your hold. | Fear not,
 17 I will take care. | —Hold the stick well.—
 18 I hold it, | let us set out. | —They set out, tortoise,
 19 ducks and stick. | They had not flown
 20 very high, | when a raven | meeting the travellers
 21 asked the ducks | what they carried.—
 22 The queen of tortoises. | —The queen of tortoises !
 23 Yes indeed, | I am, | replied the foolish animal ;
 24 and in replying, | she dropped the stick ; and
 25 falling on a rock, | she was dashed to pieces.

26

HEROISM.

27 A Dutch captain | named Schaffelaar
 28 occupied the fortress | of Barnevelt :
 29 he was besieged | and summoned to surrender, | but
 30 he would capitulate, | only when a breach
 31 was made ; | then he consented | to surrender.
 32 The first article | of the capitulation | required that
 33 the captain | should be thrown | from the top of the tower,
 34 which excited | the indignation of the besieged, | who
 35 swore all | to die | rather than accede
 36 to such a condition ; | but the generous Schaffelaar
 37 climbing | to one of the battlements, | cried out to them:
 38 “ Friends, | I must die | one day, | and

1 je n'aurai jamais | une occasion de mourir
 2 plus glorieusement, | ~~puisque~~ | je vous salue tous
 3 par ma mort." | Ayant dit ces mots, | il
 4 se précipita | du haut de la tour.

5 LES SINGES.—FABLE.

6 Un navire,—chargé d'un grand nombre | de singes
 7 et de guenons | venait d'arriver | dans un port : | le débit
 8 de cette cargaison | était sûr, | car, qui est-ce qui n'aime pas
 9 les singeries ? | Les négociants | allèrent à la ville
 10 pour annoncer leur marchandise, | et les matelots
 11 firent de même | pour boire | et se réjouir.
 12 Personne ne resta | dans le vaisseau | que les singes.
 13 Dans ce circonstances | un vieux magot | se leva
 14 pour haranguer ses camarades ; | —Je médite un bon tour,
 15 dit-il, gravement ; | voici une occasion favorable
 16 de nous délivrer | de l'esclavage,
 17 ne la laissons pas échapper ; | si vous aimez la liberté,
 18 hâtons notre retour. | —J' ai vécu | parmi les hommes,
 19 je sais | comme ils nous traitent, | ils nous lient
 20 comme des esclaves | par le milieu | du corps, | et nous font
 21 mille avanies. | Je sais gouverner | un vaisseau ;
 22 si vous voulez, | je serai le pilote | et vous serez matelots.
 23 Tous s'écrièrent : | Partons. | Liberté ! | Liberté !
 24 Les singes démarrent | aussitôt, | ils mettent à la voile ;
 25 le vent les favorise. | —A peine eurent ils quitté
 26 le bord | que le pilote | leur dit : | Messieurs, un orage
 27 nous menace, | mais ne craignez pas : | travaillez, et
 28 comptez | sur mon adresse. | Il disait vrai | quant à l'orage.
 29 A l'instant les flots mugissent | et menacent d'engloutir
 30 le nouveau pilote | et les matelots : | tout l'équipage
 31 est consterné : | qui ne le serait pas | en pareilles
 32 conjonctures ? | Enfin le vaisseau | est brisé contre
 33 un rocher, | et voilà le pilote, | les matelots, et
 34 les singes | au fond de la mer.

35 LE SOLDAT MOURANT.

36 Dans la chaleur | de la bataille | de Nerwinde,
 37 gagnée par les Français, | le maréchal de Luxembourg,

1 I shall never have | an opportunity of dying
 2 more gloriously, | since | I save you all
 3 by my death." | Having said these words, | he
 4 precipitated himself | from the top of the tower.

5 THE APES.—A FABLE.

6 A ship, | laden with a great number | of monkeys
 7 and she-apes | had just arrived | in a port : | the sale
 8 of this cargo | was sure, | for, who does not like
 9 apish tricks ? | The merchants | went to the city
 10 to announce their merchandise, | and the sailors
 11 did the same, | to drink | and rejoice themselves.
 12 No one remained | in the vessel | but the monkeys.
 13 In these circumstances, | an old baboon | got up
 14 to harangue his comrades ; | I meditate a good trick,
 15 said he gravely ; | this is a favourable opportunity
 16 to deliver ourselves | from slavery ;
 17 we must not let it slip ; | if we love freedom,
 18 let us haste our return. | —I have lived | among men ;
 19 I know | how they treat us : | they tie us
 20 like slaves | in the middle | of the body | and do us
 21 a thousand injuries. | I know how to steer | a vessel ;
 22 if you wish, | I shall be the pilot, | and you will be sailors.
 23 All cried out : | Let us go. | Freedom ! | Freedom !
 24 The apes unmoor | immediately ; | they set sail ;
 25 the wind favors them. | —Scarcely had they quitted
 26 the shore | when the pilot | told them : | Gentlemen, a storm
 27 threatens us, | but fear not ; | work, and
 28 rely | upon my skill. | He said right | as to the storm.
 29 Instantly the waves roar, | and threaten to swallow up
 30 the new pilot | and the sailors : | all the crew
 31 is affrighted : | who would not be so | in such
 32 conjunctures ? | At last the vessel | is dashed against
 33 a rock, | and behold the pilot, | the sailors, and
 34 the monkeys | at the bottom of the sea.

15 THE DYING SOLDIER.

16 In the heat | of the battle | of Nerwinde,
 17 won by the French, | marshal Luxemburgh,

1 qui les commandait, | voyant un soldat aux gardes,
 2 qui quittait son corps, | lui dit | d'un ton menaçant :
 3 Où vas-tu ? | — Monseigneur, | lui dit le soldat,
 4 en ouvrant son habit, | pour faire voir | sa blessure,
 5 je vais mourir | à quelques pas d'ici, | heureux d'avoir
 6 exposé | ma vie | pour ma patrie, | et d'avoir
 7 combattu | sous un aussi grand général | que vous.

8 L'ELEPHANT.—FABLE.

9 Un éléphant | s'était rendu utile | dans les batailles
 10 de Wishnou, | un des principaux dieux | des Indiens.
 11 Ce dieu lui ordonna | de former un souhait, | promettant
 12 qu'il serait satisfait | sur-le-champ. | — L'éléphant
 13 remercia à genoux, son bienfaiteur, | et souhaita
 14 d'être doué | de la raison | et des facultés de l'homme.
 15 Wishnou fut fâché | d'entendre | cette folle demande
 16 et chercha | à le dissuader | de son ambition déplacée ;
 17 mais ce fut en vain, | et il accorda | ce qu'il demandait.
 18 L'éléphant s'en alla | charmé de | sa nouvelle acquisition,
 19 et quoique | son corps retint | son ancienne forme,
 20 il trouva ses passions | et ses goûts | entièrement changés.
 21 Il considéra d'abord | qu'il serait | non seulement
 22 plus agréable, | mais aussi | bienséant
 23 de porter des habits ; | malheureusement | il ne pouvait
 24 en faire lui même, | et il n'avait pas | l'usage de la parole
 25 pour en demander : | ce fut | la première fois
 26 qu'il sentit | une peine réelle. Il s'aperçut bientôt
 27 que les hommes | étaient nourris | plus délicatement
 28 que lui ; | il commença donc | à se dégoûter de
 29 sa nourriture ordinaire, | et soupira après
 30 les friandises | qui ornent les tables | des princes ;
 31 mais il ne put les obtenir, | car il lui était impossible
 32 d'apprêter la viande | qu'il se procurait,
 33 En un mot | tous les plaisirs | qui contribuaient
 34 à la félicité | des hommes | ne servaient qu'à le rendre
 35 plus misérable, | se trouvant | entièrement privé
 36 de la faculté de jouir. | C'était ainsi | qu'il passait
 37 sa vie | dans le mécontentement | et le chagrin,
 38 se détestant lui-même, | et déplorant | son ambition.
 39 Enfin | son bienfaiteur, Wishnou,

1 who commanded them, | seeing a soldier of the guards
 2 quitting his corps, | said to him | in a threatening tone :
 3 Where dost thou go ? | —My lord, | said the soldier to him,
 4 opening his coat | to show | his wound,
 5 I am going to die | a few paces from here, | happy to have
 6 exposed | my life | for my country, | and to have
 7 fought | under so great a general | as you.

8 THE ELEPHANT.—A FABLE.

9 An elephant | had made himself useful | in the battles
 10 of Wishnou, | one of the principal gods | of the Indians.
 11 That god ordered him | to form a wish, | promising
 12 that it should be gratified | immediately. | —The elephant
 13 thanked his benefactor on his knees, | and desired
 14 to be endowed | with the reason | and faculties of man.
 15 Wishnou was sorry | to hear | this foolish request,
 16 and tried | to dissuade him | from his misplaced ambition ;
 17 but it was in vain, | and he granted | what he asked.
 18 The elephant went away | charmed with | his new acquisition ;
 19 and although | his body retained | its ancient form,
 20 he found his passions | and appetites | entirely altered.
 21 He first considered | that it would be | not only
 22 more agreeable, | but also | becoming
 23 to wear clothes ; | unfortunately | he could not
 24 make any himself, | and he had not | the use of speech
 25 to ask for some ; | it was | the first time
 26 that he felt | real anxiety. | He soon perceived
 27 that men | were fed | more delicately
 28 than himself ; | he therefore began | to loathe
 29 his usual food, | and longed for
 30 those delicacies | which adorn the tables | of princes ;
 31 but he could not obtain them, | for it was impossible for him
 32 to dress the flesh | which he procured.
 33 In a word, | all the pleasures | which contributed
 34 to the felicity | of mankind, | served only to render him
 35 more miserable, | finding himself | entirely deprived
 36 of the power of enjoyment. | It was thus | that he passed
 37 his life | in discontent | and sorrow,
 38 detesting himself, | and deploring | his ambition.
 39 At last | his benefactor, Wishnou,

1 ayant eu compassion | de sa misérable situation,
 2 le rendit | à l'ignorance | et au bonheur | pour
 3 lesquels | il avait été originairement formé.

4 AFFECTION FRATERNELLE.

5 Le roi de * * * | avoit trois fils, | et comme plusieurs
 6 autres pères, | ayant plus d'affection | pour le plus jeune,
 7 quelques jours | avant sa mort, | il le déclara | son
 8 successeur, | à l'exclusion | de ses frères. | —Ce
 9 procédé était | d'autant plus extraordinaire | qu'il était
 10 contraire | aux lois du royaume. | —C'est pourquoi
 11 le peuple crut, | qu'après la mort du roi | il pouvait,
 12 sans aucun crime, | élever le fils aîné | sur le trône.
 13 Ce dessein fut | universellement approuvé ; | mais
 14 le nouveau roi | se rappelant | les dernières paroles
 15 de son père | rejeta l'offre, | et prenant la couronne,
 16 il la plaça | sur la tête de | son plus jeune frère
 17 déclarant publiquement | qu'il y renonçait | et qu'il
 18 s'en croyait indigne, | puisqu'il était exclus | par
 19 le testament de son père, | et que son père
 20 ne pouvait pas alors | rétracter | ce qu'il avait fait.
 21 Son frère admirant | une action si généreuse,
 22 le conjura instamment | de ne pas s'opposer à
 23 l'inclination du peuple | qui désirait | voir le sceptre
 24 entre ses mains. | —Il prétendit | que lui seul était
 25 le successeur légitime | à la couronne | qu'il refusait,
 26 et que leur père | ne pouvait pas enfreindre | les lois
 27 du royaume ; | qu'il avait été | aveuglé | par sa
 28 tendresse ; et qu'enfin | le peuple avait le droit
 29 de réclamer l'observance | d'une ancienne loi
 30 qui paraissait bonne, | et qui, | selon lui,
 31 n'aurait pas dû être violée. | Rien cependant
 32 ne put | déterminer son frère | à accepter la couronne.
 33 Mais comme | les deux princes s'aperçurent | que
 34 la dispute serait | sans fin | ils se retirèrent de
 35 la cour. | Ainsi chacun | ayant vaincu | et été
 36 vaincu, | ils allèrent finir | leurs jours ensemble
 37 dans une solitude tranquille, | et laissèrent le
 38 royaume | à leur autre frère.

1 having taken compassion | of his forlorn situation,
 2 restored him | to the ignorance | and the happiness | for
 3 which | he had originally been formed.

4 FRATERNAL AFFECTION.

5 The king of | * * * had three sons, | and like many
 6 other fathers, | having more affection | for the youngest,
 7 some days | before his death, | he declared him | his
 8 successor, | to the exclusion | of his brothers. | This
 9 proceeding was | the more extraordinary | as it was
 10 contrary | to the laws of the kingdom. | Therefore,
 11 the people thought | that after the king's death | they might
 12 without any crime, | raise the eldest son | to the throne.
 13 This design was | universally approved; | but
 14 the new king | calling to mind | the last words
 15 of his father, | rejected the offer, | and taking the crown,
 16 he placed it | on the head of | his youngest brother,
 17 publicly declaring | that he renounced it, | and that he
 18 thought himself unworthy of it, | since he was excluded | by
 19 his father's will, | and that his father
 20 could not then | retract | what he had done.
 21 His brother admiring | so generous an action,
 22 instantly entreated him | not to oppose
 23 the inclination of the people, | who wished | to see the sceptre
 24 in his hands. | —He urged | that he alone was
 25 the lawful successor | to the crown, | which he refused,
 26 and that their father | could not infringe | the laws
 27 of the kingdom ; | that he had been | blinded | by his
 28 tenderness ; and at last, that | the people had the right
 29 to claim the observance | of an ancient law
 30 that seemed good, | and which, | according to him,
 31 ought not to have been violated. | Nothing, however,
 32 could | determine his brother | to accept the crown.
 33 But as | the two princes perceived | that
 34 the dispute would be | endless, | they withdrew from
 35 court. | Thus, each one | having vanquished | and been
 36 vanquished, | they went to end | their days together
 37 into a peaceful solitude, | and left the
 38 kingdom | to their other brother.

1 **LE MEUNIER, SON FILS ET L'ÂNE.**

2 Un meunier | avait un âne | qui lui était inutile:
 3 il résolut de s'en défaire | à la première foire.
 4 Le jour étant venu, | il dit à son fils: | Je veux vendre
 5 maître Grison; | nous n'en avons pas besoin: | nos
 6 chevaux | et nos mulets | suffisent pour porter
 7 la farine | et le grain. | — Vous avez raison, | mon
 8 père, | cet animal | ne travaille pas; | il ne fait que
 9 braire | et troubler le repos | de nos voisins: si
 10 vous voulez, | je vous accompagnerai | à la foire.
 11 Le père y consent. | Ils se mettent en marche, | le père,
 12 le fils et l'âne. | Pour ne pas fatiguer | le baudet,
 13 et pour le faire paraître | frais, | ils lui lient les pieds,
 14 et le portent | par le moyen | d'une perche | que
 15 chacun tenait | par un bout. | La première personne
 16 qui les vit | éclata de rire. | — Pauvres sots!
 17 Quelle farce jouez vous? | Le plus stupide des trois
 18 n'est pas celui | que vous portez. | — Vous avez raison,
 19 dit le meunier, | rougissant de sa simplicité, | je
 20 reconnais mon erreur. | A l'instant il délie
 21 la bête | et la conduit | devant lui. | Le baudet
 22 qui aimait à être porté, | se plaignit | en son patois
 23 de ce qu'on le faisait marcher. | Le meunier n'écoute pas
 24 ses plaintes, | et son fils | monte sur l'âne.
 25 Vous n'y pensez pas, | jeune étourdi, | dit un homme
 26 qui passait | par le même chemin: | n'êtes vous pas
 27 honteux | de laisser | derrière vous | ce pauvre
 28 vieillard | qui n'en peut plus? | Descendez: vous êtes
 29 grand et robuste: | c'est à vous de suivre | et la
 30 barbe grise | doit monter sur l'âne. | Monsieur, dit
 31 le meunier, | ayez un peu de patience: | vous serez
 32 satisfait. | Le gargon | met pied à terre, | et son père
 33 monte sur le baudet. | Quelle barbarie, | dit une
 34 vieille femme, | de laisser | ce jeune homme
 35 aller à pied, | tandis que | ce vieux pénard | est assis
 36 comme un évêque, | et pense | être bien sage!
 37 Le père crut | avoir tort | et prit son fils | en croupe.
 38 Monsieur Grison | se plaignit | à son tour:
 39 Que vous êtes cruel | de traiter ainsi | une pauvre bête
 40 qui vous a servi | si long temps! | Vous m'écrasez,
 41 mon bon maître. | Avance, Grison. — | Grison obéit.
 42 Un moment après, | ils rencontrent | d'autres voyageurs.

1 THE MILLER, HIS SON, AND THE ASS.

2 A miller | had an ass | that was useless to him :
 3 he resolved to dispose of him | at the first fair.
 4 The day being come, | he said to his son : I want to sell
 5 master Grizzle ; | we do not want him : | our
 6 horses | and our mules | suffice to carry
 7 the flour, | and the grain. | —You are right,
 8 father, | this animal | does not work ; | he does nothing but
 9 bray, | and trouble the repose | of our neighbors : if
 10 you wish, | I will accompany you | to the fair.
 11 The father consents to it. | They set out, | the father,
 12 the son, and the ass. | Not to tire | the ass,
 13 and to make him appear | fresh | they tie his feet,
 14 and carry him | by means | of a pole, | which
 15 each one held | by an end. | The first person
 16 who saw them | burst a laughing. | Poor simpletons !
 17 What farce are you acting ? | The most stupid of the three
 18 is not that | whom you carry. | You are in the right,
 19 said the miller, | blushing at his simplicity ; | I
 20 acknowledge my error. | Instantly he unties
 21 the beast, | and drives it | before him. | The ass
 22 that liked to be carried, | complained | in his gibberish
 23 because they made him walk. | The miller does not listen to
 24 his complaints, | and his son | gets upon the ass.
 25 You do not think of it, | heedless young man, | said a man
 26 who passed | by the same way ; | are you not
 27 ashamed | to leave behind you | this poor
 28 old man | who is quite spent ! | Come down : | you are
 29 tall and robust : | it is your turn to follow | and the
 30 grey beard | is to mount upon the ass. | Sir, said
 31 the miller, | have a little patience : | you will be
 32 satisfied. | The boy | alights, | and his father
 33 gets upon the ass. | What barbarity | said an
 34 old woman, | to suffer | that young man
 35 to go on foot, | whilst | this old dotard | is seated
 36 like a bishop, | and thinks | to be very wise !
 37 The father thought | he was wrong, and took his son behind.
 38 Master Grizzle | complained | in his turn.
 39 How cruel you are | to treat thus | a poor beast
 40 that has served you | for so long a time ! | You crush me,
 41 my good master. | Go on, Grizzle. | Grizzle obeys.
 42 A moment after, | they meet | other travellers.

1 Chacun trouva à gloser ; | l'un dit ; | Ces gens-ci sont fous.
 2 Le baudet n'en peut plus ; | l'autre ajoute ; | il mourra
 3 sous leur poids ; | sans doute, | ils n'ont envie que
 4 de vendre sa peau | à la foire. | Parbleu, dit le meûnier
 5 en colère, | bien fou est celui | qui prétend plaire
 6 à tout le monde ; | cependant voyons | si je ne puis
 7 en venir à bout. | Ils descendent tous deux, | père
 8 et fils. | L'âne déchargé | de son pesant fardeau
 9 marche devant eux, | dressant les oreilles, | et
 10 charmé d'être | à son aise. | A peine | avaient-ils
 11 fait un mille, | qu'un autre voyageur | les rencontra.
 12 Nouveau reproche. | —Depuis quand, | demanda-t-il,
 13 est-ce la mode, | qu'un âne voyage | à son aise,
 14 et qu'un meûnier | aille à pied ? | —Vous avez raison,
 15 répondit le maître ; | ceux que | nous avons rencontrés
 16 avant vous | prétendaient | la même chose ; mais
 17 blâmez moi, | ou me louez, | je veux désormais
 18 faire à ma tête | Il le fit, | et fit bien.

19

AVANTAGES DE L'ETUDE.

20 Pour mieux supporter | l'ennui | de la captivité
 21 et de la solitude, | je cherchai des livres, | car j'étais
 22 accablé de tristesse, | faute de quelque instruction
 23 qui pût nourrir | et soutenir | mon esprit, | Heureux,
 24 disais-je, | ceux qui méprisent | les plaisirs violents, | et qui
 25 savent se contenter | des douceurs | d'une vie innocente !
 26 Heureux ceux | pour qui l'instruction | est un amusement,
 27 et qui se plaisent | à orner leur esprit | de science !
 28 En quelque endroit qu' | ils soient jetés | par le sort,
 29 ils portent | avec eux | de quoi | s'entretenir,
 30 et l'ennui | qui dévore | les autres hommes,
 31 au milieu même | de leurs plaisirs, | est inconnu
 32 à ceux | qui savent s'occuper | de la lecture.
 33 Heureux ceux | qui aiment à lire, | et qui ne sont pas
 34 comme moi | privés de la lecture ! | Pendant que
 35 ces pensées roulaient | dans mon esprit, | je m'enfonçai
 36 dans une sombre forêt | où j'aperçus | tout-à-coup
 37 un vieillard | qui tenait un livre | à la main.
 38 Il avait le front grand, | chauve | et un peu ridé,
 39 une barbe blanche | pendait | jusqu' à sa ceinture ;
 40 sa taille était | haute et majestueuse, | son teint

1 Each one found a fault ; | one said : | 'These people are crazy.
 2 The ass is quite exhausted ; | another adds : | He will die
 3 under their weight : | undoubtedly, | they only want
 4 to sell his skin | at the fair. | Zounds, said the miller
 5 in a passion, | he is a fool indeed | who pretends to please
 6 every body : | however let us see | if I cannot
 7 bring it about. | They both alight, | father
 8 and son. | The ass unloaded | of his heavy load
 9 walks before them, | pricking up his ears, | and
 10 pleased at being | at his ease. | Scarcely | had they
 11 walked a mile, | when another traveller | met them.
 12 New reproach. | —Since what time, | did he ask,
 13 is it the fashion, | that an ass should travel | at his ease,
 14 and that a miller | should go on foot ? | —You are right,
 15 answered the master, | those whom | we met
 16 before you, | pretended | the same thing ; but
 17 blame me, | or praise me, | I want henceforward
 18 to be my own adviser. | He did so, | and did well.

19

ADVANTAGES OF STUDY.

20 The better to bear | the irksomeness | of captivity,
 21 and solitude, | I sought for books, | for I was
 22 overwhelmed with sadness, | for want of some instruction
 23 that could nourish | and sustain | my mind. | Happy,
 24 said I, | those who despise | violent pleasures, | and who
 25 are satisfied | with the sweets | of an innocent life !
 26 Happy those | for whom instruction | is an amusement,
 27 and who find pleasure | in adorning their mind | with science!
 28 Wherever | they may be driven | by fate,
 29 they carry | with them | wherewith | to amuse themselves,
 30 and ennui | which devours | other men,
 31 even in the midst | of their pleasures, | is unknown
 32 to them | who know how to occupy themselves | with reading.
 33 Happy those | who like to read, | and who are not,
 34 like me, | deprived of reading. | Whilst
 35 these thoughts revolved | in my mind, | I penetrated
 36 into a dark forest, | where I perceived | suddenly
 37 an old man, | who held a book | in his hand.
 38 His forehead was large, | bald, | and a little wrinkled;
 39 a white beard | hung down | to his girdle ;
 40 his stature was | high and majestic, | his complexion

1 était encore frais | et vermeil, | ses yeux vifs | et pergants;
 2 sa voix était douce, | et ses paroles | simples et aimables.
 3 Jamais je n'ai vu | un vieillard | si vénérable.
 4 Il s'appelait Termosiris, | il était prêtre | d'Apollon
 5 qu'il adorait | dans un temple de marbre, | que les rois
 6 d'Egypte | avaient consacré | à ce dieu | dans cette forêt.
 7 Le livre qu'il tenait | était un recueil | d'hymnes
 8 en l'honneur des dieux. | Il m'aborda | avec amitié,
 9 et nous nous mîmes | à discourir ensemble. | Il racontait
 10 les choses passées | avec tant de justesse | qu'elles semblaient
 11 présentes, | et cependant | avec une telle brièveté | que
 12 ses histoires | ne lassaient jamais. | Il prévoyait l'avenir
 13 par son profond savoir; | il connaissait les hommes
 14 et les desseins | dont ils sont capables. | Avec tant de
 15 sagesse, | il était gai, | complaisant; | et la jeunesse
 16 la plus enjouée | n'a point | autant de grâces,
 17 qu'en avait cet homme | dans une vieillesse si avancée;
 18 aussi aimait-il | les jeunes gens | quand ils étaient
 19 dociles, | et qu'ils avaient | le goût de la vertu.

20 L'INGRATITUDE.—CONTE ORIENTAL.

21 Un dervis | vénérable par son âge, | tomba malade
 22 dans la maison | d'une femme | qui était veuve
 23 depuis plusieurs années, | et qui vivait | dans une extrême
 24 pauvreté | dans les faubourgs | de Bassora. | Il fut
 25 si touché du soin | et du zèle | avec lesquels | elle
 26 l'avait assisté, | qu'à son départ, | il lui dit :
 27 Vous avez | de quoi subsister seule, | mais vous
 28 n'avez pas | assez de fortune | pour la partager | avec
 29 votre fils unique, | le jeune Abdallah. | Si vous voulez
 30 le confier | à mes soins, | je tâcherai de reconnaître
 31 en sa personne, | les obligations | que je vous ai
 32 du soin | que vous avez pris | de moi. | La bonne femme
 33 reçut cette proposition | avec joie, | et le dervis partit
 34 avec le jeune homme, | l'avertissant | qu'il fallait
 35 qu'ils fissent un voyage | qui durerait | près de deux ans.
 36 Pendant qu'ils voyageaient, | il le tint | dans l'abondance,
 37 lui donna | d'excellents préceptes, | et le guérit | d'une
 38 maladie dangereuse | dont | il était attaqué; | enfin
 39 il en prit le même soin | que s'il eût été | son propre fils.
 40 Abdallah lui témoigna cent fois | sa reconnaissance | pour

1 was still fresh | and ruddy, | his eyes lively | and piercing;
 2 his voice was sweet, | and his words | simple and amiable.
 3 Never did I see | an old man | so venerable.
 4 His name was Termosiris, | he was a priest | of Apollo,
 5 whom he adored | in a temple of marble, | which the kings
 6 of Egypt | had consecrated | to that God, | in that forest.
 7 The book that he held | was a collection | of hymns
 8 in honor of the gods. | He accosted me | with friendship,
 9 and we began | to converse together. | He related
 10 past events | with so much accuracy | that they seemed
 11 to be present, | and yet | with such brevity | that
 12 his stories | never tired attention. | He foresaw the future
 13 by his profound knowledge ; | he knew men
 14 and the designs | of which they are capable. | With so much
 15 wisdom, | he was cheerful, | condescending ; | and youth
 16 the most lively | has not | so much grace
 17 as that man had | in so advanced an age :
 18 therefore he loved | young people, | when they were
 19 docile, | and had | a taste for virtue.

20 INGRATITUDE.—AN EASTERN TALE.

21 A dervis, | venerable by his age, | fell ill
 22 in the house | of a woman | who had been a widow
 23 for several years, | and who lived | in extreme
 24 poverty | in the suburbs | of Bassora. | He was
 25 so touched with the care | and zeal | with which | she
 26 had assisted him, | that on his departure, | he told her :
 27 You have | wherewith to subsist alone, | but you
 28 have not | fortune enough | to share it | with
 29 your only son, | the young Abdallah. | If you wish
 30 to trust him | to my care, | I will try to acknowledge
 31 in his person, | the obligations | that I have to you
 32 for the care | which you took | of me. | The good woman
 33 received this proposal | with joy, | and the dervis set out
 34 with the young man, | warning her, | that they must
 35 perform a journey, | which would last | nearly two years.
 36 As they travelled, | he kept him | in affluence,
 37 gave him | excellent precepts, and cured him | of a
 38 dangerous disease, | with which | he was attacked ; | in fine,
 39 he took the same care of him, | as if he had been | his own son.
 40 Abdallah a hundred times testified | his gratitude | for

1 toutes ses bontés ; | mais le vieillard | répondait toujours :
 2 Mon fils, | c'est par les actions | que
 3 la reconnaissance se prouve ; | nous verrons
 4 bientôt, | si vous êtes | aussi reconnaissant | que
 5 vous le prétendez. | Un jour | qu'ils continuaient
 6 leur voyage, | ils se trouvèrent | dans un
 7 lieu solitaire, | et le dervis | dit à Abdallah ;
 8 Mon fils, | nous sommes maintenant | à la fin
 9 de notre voyage ; | j'emploierai mes prières
 10 pour obtenir | du Ciel | que la terre s'ouvre
 11 et fasse une entrée | assez large | pour vous permettre
 12 de descendre | dans un lieu | où vous trouverez
 13 un des plus grands trésors | que la terre renferme.
 14 Êtes vous | assez courageux | pour descendre | dans
 15 ce souterrain ? | —Abdallah lui jura | qu'il pouvait
 16 compter | sur son obéissance | et son zèle. | Alors le
 17 dervis | alluma un petit feu | dans lequel | il jeta
 18 un parfum ; | il lut et pria | pendant quelques moments,
 19 après quoi | la terre s'entr'ouvrit | et le dervis lui dit :
 20 Vous pouvez entrer | à présent, | mon cher Abdallah ;
 21 souvenez vous | qu'il ne tient qu'à vous | de me rendre
 22 un grand service, | et que ceci | est peut-être | la seule
 23 occasion | que vous puissiez | jamais avoir
 24 de me témoigner | que vous n'êtes pas | ingrat.
 25 Ne vous laissez pas éblouir | par toutes les richesses
 26 que vous y trouverez : | ne pensez qu'à prendre | un
 27 chandelier | à douze branches, | que vous trouverez
 28 près d'une porte : | il m'est absolument nécessaire.
 29 —Abdallah promit tout, | et descendit hardiment
 30 dans le souterrain ; | mais oubliant | ce qui
 31 lui avait été recommandé, | tandis qu'il remplissait
 32 sa veste | et son sein | d'or et de bijoux | dont
 33 ce caveau | renfermait | des tas prodigieux,
 34 l'ouverture | par laquelle | il était entré,
 35 se referma d'elle-même. | Il eut cependant
 36 assez de présence d'esprit | pour s'emparer du
 37 chandelier | que le dervis | lui avait recommandé
 38 si fortement ; | et quoique | sa situation | fût terrible,
 39 il ne s'abandonna pas | au désespoir, | et
 40 ne pensant qu'au moyen | de sortir | d'un endroit
 41 qui aurait pu devenir | son tombeau, | il comprit que
 42 le caveau | ne s'était fermé que | parcequ'il n'avait pas

1 all his favors ; | but the old man | always answered :
 2 My son, | it is by actions | that
 3 gratitude is proved ; | we shall see
 4 soon, | if you are | as grateful | as
 5 you pretend to be. | One day | as they continued
 6 their journey, | they found themselves | in a
 7 solitary place, | and the dervis | said to Abdallah :
 8 My son, | we are now | at the termination
 9 of our journey ; | I will employ my prayers
 10 to obtain | from heaven | that the earth may open,
 11 and make an entrance | wide enough | to allow you
 12 to descend | into a place | where you will find
 13 one of the greatest treasures | that the earth encloses.
 14 Are you | courageous enough | to descend | into
 15 this cave ? | —Abdallah swore to him | that he could
 16 depend | on his obedience, | and zeal. | Then the
 17 dervis | lighted a little fire, | into which | he threw
 18 a perfume ; | he read and prayed | for some moments,
 19 after which | the earth opened, | and the dervis said to him :
 20 You may go in | at present, | my dear Abdallah :
 21 remember | that it is in your power | to do me
 22 a great service, | and that this | is perhaps | the only
 23 opportunity, | which you may | ever have
 24 of showing me | that you are not | ungrateful.
 25 Do not let yourself be dazzled | by all the riches
 26 which you will find there ; | think only of taking | a
 27 candlestick | with twelve branches, | which you will find
 28 near a door : | it is absolutely necessary to me.
 29 —Abdallah promised all, | and descended boldly
 30 into the cavern ; | but forgetting | that which
 31 had been recommended to him, | as he was filling
 32 his vest, | and bosom | with gold and jewels, | of which
 33 this cave | contained | prodigious heaps,
 34 the aperture | through which | he had entered,
 35 closed of itself. | He had however
 36 sufficient presence of mind | to seize upon the
 37 candlestick, | which the dervis | had recommended to him
 38 so strongly ; | and although | his situation | was terrible,
 39 he did not give himself | to despair, | and
 40 thinking only how | to get out | of a place
 41 which might have become | his tomb, | he apprehended that
 42 the vault | had closed only | because he had not

1 suivi l'ordre | du dervis ; | il se rappela
 2 les bontés | dont il l'avait comblé,
 3 se reprocha | son ingratitude, | et s'humilia
 4 devant Dieu. | Enfin, | après beaucoup d'inquiétude,
 5 il fut assez heureux | pour trouver | un passage étroit
 6 qui le conduisit | hors de la caverne. | Il regarda alors
 7 de tous côtés, | pour voir | s'il apercevrait
 8 le dervis, | mais en vain : | il avait dessein
 9 de lui rendre | le chandelier | qu'il désirait tant,
 10 et il forma le projet | de le quitter, | étant assez riche
 11 de ce qu'il avait pris | dans la caverne
 12 pour vivre | dans l'affluence | sans son assistance.
 13 N'apercevant pas | le dervis, | et ne se rappelant pas
 14 les endroits | par où il avait passé, | il alla
 15 comme la fortune | le dirigea, | et il fut
 16 extrêmement surpris | de se trouver | vis-à-vis de
 17 la maison de sa mère, | qu'il croyait | très-éloignée.
 18 Elle s'informa sur-le-champ | du saint dervis.
 19 Abdallah lui dit | franchement | ce qui était arrivé,
 20 et le danger | qu'il avait couru | pour satisfaire
 21 ses désirs déraisonnables ; | ensuite, | il lui montra
 22 les richesses | qu'il possédait. | Sa mère conclut
 23 en les voyant | que le dervis | ne voulait que
 24 faire une épreuve | de son courage | et de son
 25 obéissance, | et qu'ils devaient | faire usage
 26 du bonheur | que la fortune | leur avait offert ;
 27 ajoutant que | sans doute | telle était l'intention
 28 du saint dervis. | Pendant qu'ils contemplaient
 29 ces trésors | avec avidité, | qu'ils étaient éblouis
 30 de leur lustre, | et qu'ils formaient | mille projets.
 31 ils disparurent | tout-à-coup. | Ce fut alors qu'
 32 Abdallah | se reprocha | son ingratitude
 33 et sa désobéissance ; | et s'apercevant | que le
 34 chandelier de fer | avait résisté | à l'enchantement,
 35 ou qu'il recevait la punition | que méritent
 36 ceux qui n'exécutent pas | ce qu'ils promettent ;
 37 il dit, | en se prosternant ; | — " Ce qui m'est arrivé |
 38 est juste ; | j'ai perdu ce que | j'avais résolu
 39 de ne pas rendre, | et le chandelier | que je me proposais
 40 de rendre au dervis | me reste ; | c'est une preuve
 41 qu'il lui appartient | de droit, | et que le reste
 42 a été | injustement acquis." | Comme il finissait

1 followed the order | of the dervis ; | he remembered
 2 the favors | with which he had loaded him,
 3 reproached himself with | his ingratitude, | and humbled him-
 4 before God. | At last, | after much inquietude, [self
 5 he was fortunate enough | to find | a narrow passage
 6 which led him | out of the cave. | He then looked
 7 on all sides, | to see | if he could perceive
 8 the dervis, | but in vain : | he intended
 9 to return him | the candlestick, | which he wished so much,
 10 and he formed the project | of quitting him, | being rich enough
 11 with what he had taken | out of the cave
 12 to live. | in affluence | without his assistance.
 13 Not perceiving | the dervis, | and not remembering
 14 the places | through which he had passed, | he went
 15 as fortune | directed him, | and he was
 16 extremely surprised | to find himself | opposite
 17 the house of his mother, | which he thought | very distant.
 18 She immediately inquired | after the holy dervis.
 19 Abdallah told her | frankly | what had happened,
 20 and the danger | which he had run | to satisfy
 21 his unreasonable wishes ; | then, | he showed her
 22 the riches | which he possessed. | His mother concluded
 23 when she saw them, | that the dervis | only wished
 24 to make a trial | of his courage | and of his
 25 obedience, | and that they were | to make use
 26 of the good luck, | which fortune | had offered them ;
 27 adding that | undoubtedly | such was the intention
 28 of the holy dervis. | Whilst they contemplated
 29 those treasures | with avidity, | were dazzled
 30 with their lustre, | and formed | a thousand projects,
 31 they disappeared | suddenly. | It was then, that
 32 Abdallah | reproached himself with | his ingratitude
 33 and his disobedience ; | and perceiving | that the
 34 iron candlestick | had resisted | the enchantment,
 35 or that | he received the punishment | which they deserve
 36 who do not execute | what they promise ;
 37 he said, | prostrating himself: | —“What has happened to me
 38 is just ; | I have lost that which | I had resolved
 39 not to restore, | and the candlestick, | which I intended
 40 to return to the dervis | remains with me ; | it is a proof
 41 that it belongs to him | by right, | and that the rest
 42 was | unjustly acquired.” | As he finished

1 ces paroles, | il plaga | le chandelier de fer
 2 au milieu de | leur petite demeure.
 3 Quand la nuit | fut venue, | sans y faire réflexion
 4 il placa | une lumière | dans le chandelier. | Aussitôt
 5 ils virent paraître un dervis, | qui tourna | pendant une
 6 heure | et disparut, | après leur avoir jeté | un aspre.
 7 Ce chandelier | avait douze branches. | Abdallah
 8 qui avait médité | tout le jour | sur ce qu'il avait vu
 9 la nuit précédente | voulut savoir | ce qui arriverait
 10 le jour suivant, | s'il mettait | une lumière | dans
 11 chacune d'elles : | il le fit, | et douze dervis parurent
 12 à l'instant ; | ils tournèrent aussi | pendant une heure,
 13 et chacun d'eux | jeta un aspre | et disparut.
 14 Il répéta | tons les jours | la même cérémonie, | qui
 15 eut toujours | le même succès ; | mais il ne put
 16 la faire réussir | plus d'une fois | dans les vingt-quatre
 17 heures. | Cette petite somme | était suffisante
 18 pour les faire subsister | passablement, | lui et sa
 19 mère : | il y eut un temps | qu'ils n'auraient désiré
 20 rien de plus | pour être heureux ; | mais elle n'était pas
 21 assez considérable | pour changer | leur fortune.
 22 Il est toujours dangereux | que l'imagination soit
 23 fixée | sur l'idée des richesses. | La vue de ce qu'il
 24 croyait | qu'il posséderait ; | les projets qu'il avait formés
 25 pour l'employer ; | toutes ces choses | avaient laissé
 26 des traces si profondes | dans l'esprit d'Abdallah,
 27 que rien ne pouvait | les effacer. | C'est pourquoi | voyant
 28 le petit avantage | qu'il retirait | du chandelier,
 29 il résolut de le porter | au dervis | dans l'espérance
 30 qu'il obtiendrait | le trésor | qu'il avait vu | ou
 31 du moins, | qu'il retrouverait | les richesses | qui
 32 s'étaient évanouies | de sa vue, | en lui rendant
 33 une chose pour laquelle | il témoignait un désir
 34 si ardent. | Il fut assez heureux | pour se souvenir de
 35 son nom | et de la ville | qu'il habitait. | C'est pourquoi
 36 il partit sur-le-champ | pour Magrebi, | portant avec
 37 lui | son chandelier, | qu'il alluma | toutes les nuits ;
 38 et par ce moyen, | il obtenait | tout ce qui était nécessaire
 39 sur la route, | sans être obligé | d'implorer l'assistance
 40 et la compassion | des fidèles. | Quand il arriva à
 41 Magrebi, | son premier soin | fut de s'informer
 42 dans quelle maison, | ou dans quel couvent

1 these words, | he placed | the iron candlestick
 2 in the midst of | their little abode.
 3 When night | was come, | without reflecting upon it,
 4 he placed | a light | in the candlestick. | Immediately
 5 they saw a dervis appear, | who turned round | for one
 6 hour, | and disappeared, | after having thrown them | an asper.
 7 The candlestick | had twelve branches. | Abdallah
 8 who had meditated | all day long | upon what he had seen
 9 the night before, | wished to know | what would happen
 10 the next day, | if he put | a light, | in
 11 each of them : | he did so, | and twelve dervises appeared
 12 instantly ; | they also turned round | for an hour,
 13 and each of them | threw an asper, | and disappeared.
 14 He repeated | every day | the same ceremony, | which
 15 always had | the same success ; | but he could not
 16 make it succeed | more than once | in the twenty-four
 17 hours. | This little sum | was sufficient
 18 to make them subsist | tolerably, | himself and his
 19 mother : | there was a time | when they could have wished
 20 nothing more | to be happy ; | but it was not
 21 considerable enough | to change | their fortune.
 22 It is always dangerous | for the imagination to be
 23 fixed | on the idea of riches. | The sight of that which he
 24 thought | he would possess ; | the projects he had formed
 25 for the employment of it ; | all these things | had left
 26 so profound traces | in the mind of Abdallah,
 27 that nothing could | efface them. | Therefore, | seeing
 28 the small advantage | that he drew | from the candlestick,
 29 he resolved to carry it | to the dervis | in hopes
 30 that he would obtain | the treasure | he had seen, | or
 31 at least | find again | the riches | which
 32 had vanished | from his sight, | by restoring to him
 33 a thing for which | he testified a wish
 34 so ardent. | He was so fortunate | as to remember
 35 his name | and the town | which he inhabited. | Therefore
 36 he departed immediately | for Magreby, | carrying with
 37 him | his candlestick, | which he lighted | every night;
 38 and by that means | he obtained | all that was necessary
 39 on the road, | without being obliged | to implore the assistance
 40 and the compassion | of the faithful. | When he arrived at
 41 Magreby, | his first care | was to enquire
 42 in what house, | or in which convent

1 logeait Abounadar. | Il était si bien connu
 2 que tout le monde lui dit | où il demeurerait. | Il s'y rendit
 3 sur-le-champ, | et trouva | cinquante portiers | qui
 4 gardaient la porte | de la maison, | ayant chacun
 5 à la main | un bâton à pomme d'or. | La cour de ce
 6 palais | était remplie | d'esclaves | et de domestiques :
 7 en un mot, | la résidence d'un prince | ne pourrait pas
 8 exposer à la vue | plus de magnificence. | Abdallah,
 9 frappé d'étonnement | et d'admiration, | craignit
 10 d'avancer. | Certainement, | pensa-t-il, | ou
 11 je me suis mal expliqué, | ou ceux à qui je me suis adressé
 12 avaient dessein | de se moquer de moi, | parce que
 13 j'étais étranger : | ceci n'est pas la demeure | d'un dervis,
 14 c'est celle d'un roi. | Il était | dans cet embarras
 15 lorsqu'un homme | s'approcha de lui, | et lui dit :
 16 " Abdallah, | vous êtes bien-venu, | venez voir mon maître ;
 17 il y a long-temps qu'il vous attend." | Alors il
 18 le conduisit | à un pavillon agréable et magnifique,
 19 où le dervis | était assis. | Abdallah, frappé
 20 des richesses | qu'il voyait | de tous côtés
 21 se serait prosterné | à ses pieds, | mais Abounadar
 22 s'en empêcha, | et l'interrompit | quand il voulut
 23 se faire un mérite | du chandelier | qu'il lui présenta.
 24 — " Vous n'êtes qu'un misérable ingrat, | lui dit-il :
 25 vous imaginez-vous | que vous puissiez | m'en imposer ?
 26 Je n'ignore aucune | de vos pensées ; | et si vous eussiez su
 27 le prix de ce chandelier, | je suis porté à croire | que
 28 vous ne me l'auriez jamais apporté. | Vous allez
 29 en connaître l'usage. | Aussitôt il plaça | une lumière
 30 dans chacune de ses branches ; | et quand les douze dervis
 31 eurent tourné | pendant quelque temps, | Abounadar
 32 donna à chacun d'eux | un coup de baguette ; | et,
 33 en un moment | ils furent changés | en douze monceaux
 34 de sequins, | de diamants | et d'autres pierres précieuses.
 35 —Voilà, | l'usage qu'on doit faire | de ce chandelier,
 36 dit-il. | Quant à moi, | je ne l'ai désiré que | pour le placer
 37 dans mon cabinet, | comme un talisman | composé par,
 38 un sage | que je révère ; | il me plaît | de le montrer
 39 quelquefois | à ceux | qui viennent me voir ;
 40 et pour vous prouver, | ajouta-t-il, | que la curiosité
 41 fut le seul motif | qui m'engagea | à l'envoyer chercher,
 42 voici les clefs | de mes magasins ; | ouvrez-les, | et

1 Abounadar lodged. | He was so well known,
 2 that every body told him | where he lived. | He repaired thither
 3 directly, | and found | fifty porters, | who
 4 kept the gate | of the house, | having each of them
 5 in his hand | a stick with a golden head. | The court of this
 6 palace | was filled | with slaves, | and servants :
 7 in a word, | the residence of a prince | could not
 8 exhibit | more magnificence. | Abdallah,
 9 struck with astonishment, | and admiration, | feared
 10 to proceed. | Certainly, | thought he, | either
 11 I explained myself wrong, | or those whom I addresséd
 12 designed | to laugh at me, | because
 13 I was a stranger ; | this is not the abode | of a dervis,
 14 it is that of a king. | He was | thus perplexed
 15 when a man | approached him, | and told him :
 16 " Abdallah, | you are welcome, | come and see my master ;
 17 he has long expected you." | Then he
 18 conducted him | to a pleasant and magnificent pavillion
 19 where the dervis | was sitting. | Abdallah, struck
 20 with the riches | which he beheld | on all sides,
 21 would have prostrated himself | to his feet, | but Abounadar
 22 prevented him, | and interrupted him | when he wished to
 23 make a merit | of the candlestick | which he presented to him.
 24 —You are but an ungrateful wretch, | said he to him :
 25 do you imagine | that you can | impose upon me ?
 26 I am ignorant of no one | of your thoughts ; | and had you known
 27 the value of this candlestick, | I am inclined to think | that
 28 you would never have brought it to me. | You are going
 29 to know the use of it. | Immediately he placed | a light
 30 in each of its braches ; | and when the twelve dervises
 31 had turned round | for some time, | Abounadar
 32 gave to each of them | a blow with a wand ; | and,
 33 in an instant | they were changed | into twelve heaps
 34 of zechims, | of diamonds, | and other precious stones.
 35 This is | the use which is to be made | of this candlestick,
 36 said he. | As to me, | I wished it only | to place it
 37 in my cabinet, | as a talisman | composed by
 38 a sage, | whom I revere ; | it pleases me | to show it
 39 sometimes | to those | who come to visit me ;
 40 and to prove to you, | added he, that curiosity
 41 was the only motive | which induced me | to send for it,
 42 here are the keys | of my magazines ; | open them, | and

1 vous jugerez | de mes richesses ; | vous ne savez si
 2 l'homme le plus avare | n'en serait pas satisfait
 3 Abdallah lui obéit, | et il vit douze magasins
 4 très grands, | si remplis | de toutes sortes | de
 5 richesses, | qu'il ne put distinguer | les quelles méritaient
 6 le plus | son attention. | Elles la méritaient toutes,
 7 et elles produisirent | de nouveaux désirs. | Le regret
 8 d'avoir rendu | le chandelier, | et celui de
 9 n'en avoir pas trouvé l'usage | lui percèrent le cœur.
 10 Abounadar parut | ne pas s'en apercevoir ;
 11 il le combla | de caresses, | le retint | quelques jours
 12 dans sa maison, | et commanda | qu'on le traitât
 13 comme lui-même. | La veille du jour | qu'il avait fixé
 14 pour son départ, | il lui dit : | Mon fils, | je crois | par
 15 ce qui vous est arrivé, | que vous êtes corrigé | du
 16 vice infâme | de l'ingratitude ; | cependant | je
 17 vous dois une marque | de mon affection, | pour avoir
 18 entrepris | un si long voyage | dans la vue de
 19 m'apporter | la chose | que je désirais : | vous pouvez
 20 partir ; | je ne vous retiendrai pas | plus long-temps.
 21 Vous trouverez demain | à la porte | de mon palais
 22 un de mes chevaux | pour vous porter ; | je vous le donne ;
 23 en outre | je vous fais présent | d'un esclave | qui
 24 vous conduira chez vous, | et de deux chameaux | chargés
 25 d'or | et de bijoux | que vous choisirez | vous-même
 26 dans mes trésors." | —Abdallah lui dit | tout ce qu'un
 27 cœur | sensible à l'avarice | peut exprimer | quand
 28 sa passion | est satisfaite ; | et il alla se coucher
 29 jusqu'au matin | qui était fixé | pour son départ.
 30 Pendant la nuit, | il fut agité | sans pouvoir penser
 31 à autre chose | qu'an chandelier | et à ce qu'il avait
 32 produit. | —Je l'ai eu, | dit-il, | si long temps
 33 en mon pouvoir ! | Sans moi, jamais Abounadar
 34 ne l'aurait possédé. | Quels risques | n'ai-je pas courus
 35 dans la voûte souterraine ? | Pourquoi est-il à présent
 36 possesseur de ce trésor | des trésors ? Parce que j'ai eu
 37 l'honnêteté, | ou plutôt la folie | de le lui apporter ;
 38 il profite de mon travail | et des dangers auxquels
 39 j'ai été exposé | dans un si long voyage. | Et, que
 40 me donne-t-il | en récompense ? | Deux chameaux
 41 chargés d'or | et de bijoux. | En un moment | le chandelier
 42 lui en fournira | dix fois autant. | C'est Abounadar

1 you may judge of my riches ; | you will tell me if
 2 the most avaricious man | would not be satisfied.
 3 Abdallah obeyed him, | and he saw twelve magazines
 4 very large, | so full | of all sorts | of
 5 riches, | that he could not distinguish | which deserved
 6 the most | his attention. | They all deserved it,
 7 and they produced | new desires. | The regret
 8 of having restored | the candlestick, | and that of
 9 not having discovered its use | pierced his heart.
 10 Abounadar seemed | not to perceive it ;
 11 he loaded him | with caresses, | detained him | some days
 12 in his house, | and ordered | that he should be treated
 13 like himself. | On the eve of the day | which he had fixed
 14 for his departure, | he told him : | My son, | I think | by
 15 what happened to you, | that you are cured | of the
 16 frightful vice | of ingratitude ; | however, | I
 17 owe you a mark | of my affection, | for having
 18 undertaken | so long a journey | with the view of
 19 bringing me | the thing, | which I wished : | you may
 20 depart ; | I will not detain you | any longer.
 21 To-morrow you will find | at the gate | of my palace
 22 one of my horses | to carry you ; | I give it to you,
 23 besides | I make you a present | of a slave, | who
 24 will conduct you home, | and of two camels | loaded
 25 with gold | and jewels, | which you may choose | yourself
 26 out of my treasures. | —Abdallah told him | all that a
 27 heart | sensible to avarice | can express, | when
 28 his passion | is satisfied ; | and he went to lie down
 29 till the morning | which was fixed | for his departure.
 30 During the night, | he was agitated, | without being able to think
 31 of any thing, | but the candlestick, | and what it had
 32 produced. | I had it, | said he, | for so long a time
 33 in my power ! | Had it not been for me never could Abounadar
 34 have possessed it. | What risks | have I not run
 35 in the subterraneous vault ? | Why is he now
 36 possessor of this treasure | of treasures ? | Because I had
 37 the honesty, | or rather the folly | to bring it to him ;
 38 he profits by my labour, | and the dangers to which
 39 I was exposed | in so long a journey. | And, what
 40 does he give me | in return ? | Two camels
 41 loaded with gold | and jewels. | In a moment | the candlestick
 42 will furnish him with | ten times as much. | It is Abounadar

1 **qui** est ingrat : | quel tort | lui ferai je | **en prenant**
 2 **ce** chandelier ? | Aucun, certainement : | **car il est**
 3 riche ; | et qu'est-ce que je possède ? | **Ces idées**
 4 le déterminèrent | enfin | à faire toutes les tentatives
 5 pour se saisir du chandelier. | La chose n'était pas
 6 difficile. | Abounadar lui ayant confié | les clefs de
 7 ses magasins, | il savait | où le chandelier | était
 8 placé ; | il s'en empara, | le cacha au fond | d'un de
 9 ses **sacs** | qu'il remplit | de pièces d'or | **et d'autres**
 10 richesses | qu'il avait la permission | de **prendre**, et
 11 le chargea | aussi bien que le reste | **sur ses chameaux**.
 12 Après avoir dit adieu | au généreux Abounadar,
 13 il lui rendit ses clefs, | et partit à la hâte,
 14 avec son cheval, | son esclave | et ses deux chameaux.
 15 **Quand** il fut | à quelques journées | de Bassora
 16 il **vendit** son esclave, | étant résolu | de n'avoir pas
 17 de **témoin** | de sa première **pauvreté**, | ni de la source
 18 de ses richesses. | Il en acheta un autre, | et arriva | sans
 19 aucun obstacle, | chez sa mère, | qu'il voulut à peine
 20 regarder, | tant il était épris | de son trésor. | Son
 21 premier soin | fut de placer | les charges de ses chameaux
 22 **et** le chandelier | dans la chambre | la plus retirée
 23 de la maison ; | et dans l'impatience où il était
 24 de repaître ses yeux | de sa grande opulence, | il
 25 **plaga** sur-le-champ des lumières | dans le chandelier.
 26 Les douze dervis paraissant, | il donna à chacun d'eux
 27 un coup de canne, | de toutes ses forces, | de peur
 28 de manquer aux lois | du talisman : | mais il n'avait pas
 29 remarqué | qu' Abounadar, | quand il les frappa,
 30 **avait** la canne | dans la main gauche. | Abdallah
 31 **par** un mouvement naturel, | se servit de sa droite ;
 32 **et** les dervis, | au lieu de devenir | des monceaux
 33 de richesses, | tirèrent sur-le-champ | de dessous
 34 leur robe | des massues formidables, | dont ils
 35 le frappèrent | si fort | et si long temps, | qu'ils
 36 le laissèrent | presque mort, | et disparurent, | emportant
 37 avec eux | tout son trésor, | les chameaux, | le cheval,
 38 l'esclave | et le chandelier. | C'est ainsi qu' Abdallah
 39 fut puni | de son ambition déraisonnable | et de son
 40 ingratitude, | et qu'il ne put cacher | sa perfidie
 41 à son bienfaiteur.

1 who is ungrateful : | what wrong | shall I do him, | intaking
 2 this candlestick ? | None, certainly ; | for he is
 3 rich ; | and what do I possess ? | These ideas
 4 determined him | at last | to make all attempts
 5 to seize upon the candlestick. | The thing was not
 6 difficult. | Abounadar having trusted him with | the keys of
 7 his magazines, | he knew | where the candlestick | was
 8 placed ; | he seized upon it, | hid it in the bottom | of one of
 9 his bags, | which he filled | with pieces of gold, | and other
 10 riches, | that he had permission | to take | and
 11 loaded it, | as well as the rest, | on his camels.
 12 After having bid adieu | to the generous Abounadar,
 13 he returned him his keys, | and set out hastily,
 14 with his horse, | his slave, | and his two camels.
 15 When he was | some days journey | from Bassora
 16 he sold his slave, | being determined | to have no
 17 witness | of his former poverty, | nor of the source
 18 of his riches. | He bought another one, | and arrived | without
 19 any obstacle, | at his mother's house | on whom he would scarce
 20 look, | so much was he taken up | with his treasure. | His
 21 first care | was to place | the loads of his camels,
 22 and the candlestick | in the room | the most retired
 23 of the house ; | and in his impatience
 24 to feed his eyes | with his great opulence, | he
 25 placed lights immediately | in the candlestick.
 26 The twelve dervises appearing, | he gave each of them
 27 a blow with a cane, | with all his strength, | for fear
 28 of failing the laws | of the talisman : | but he had not
 29 remarked | that Abounadar, | when he struck them,
 30 had the cane | in the left hand. | Abdallah
 31 by a natural motion, | used his right ;
 32 and the dervises, | instead of becoming | heaps
 33 of riches | drew suddenly | from under
 34 their robes | formidable clubs, | with which they
 35 struck him | so hard | and so long, | that they
 36 left him | almost dead | and disappeared, | carrying off
 37 with them | all his treasure, | the camels, | the horse,
 38 the slave, | and the candlestick. | Thus Abdallah
 39 was punished | for his unreasonable ambition, | and his
 40 ingratitude, | and could not conceal | his perfidy
 41 from his benefactor.

1 DEPART DE GIL-BLAS POUR SALAMANQUE.

2 Avant mon départ | j'allai embrasser | mon père | et
 3 ma mère, | qui ne m'épargnèrent pas | les remontrances.
 4 Ils m'exhortèrent | à être reconnaissant | envers mon
 5 oncle, | à vivre en honnête homme | et sur toutes choses
 6 à ne pas prendre | le bien d'autrui ; | et ils me firent présent
 7 de leur bénédiction | qui était | le seul bien | que
 8 j'attendais d'eux. | Aussitôt | je montai | sur ma mule,
 9 et je sortis | de la ville. | —Me voilà donc | hors
 10 d'Ôviedo, | sur le chemin de Pagnafior, | maître de
 11 mes actions, | d'une mauvaise mule, | de quarante
 12 bons ducats | et de quelques réaux. | La
 13 première chose | que je fis, | fut de compter | et de
 14 recompter | mes ducats | dans mon chapeau. | Je
 15 n'étais pas maître de ma joie ; | je n'avais jamais vu
 16 tant d'argent ; | je ne pouvais me lasser | de le regarder,
 17 et de le manier. | Je le comptais | peut-être pour la
 18 vingtième fois, | quand tout-à-coup | ma mule s'arrêta
 19 au milieu | du grand chemin. | Je jugeai que
 20 quelque chose l'effrayait : | je regardai | et j'aperçus
 21 sur la terre | un chapeau renversé ; | en même temps
 22 j'entendis | une voix lamentable | qui prononça | ces
 23 paroles : | "Seigneur passant, | ayez pitié | de grâce
 24 d'un pauvre soldat estropié ; | jetez, | s'il vous plait,
 25 quelques pièces d'argent | dans ce chapeau ; | vous
 26 en serez récompensé | dans l'autre monde."
 27 Je tournai alors les yeux | du côté | d'où partait la voix :
 28 je vis, | au pied d'un buisson, | une espèce de soldat,
 29 tenant en main | un fusil | avec lequel
 30 il me couchait en joue. | A cette vue | qui me fit
 31 trembler, | je m'arrêtai tout court ; | je serrai promptement
 32 mes ducats, | je jetai quelques réaux
 33 dans le chapeau | et j'eus la précaution | de les jeter
 34 l'un après l'autre, | pour montrer au soldat, | que
 35 j'en usais noblement ; | il fut satisfait | de ma
 36 générosité, | et me donna | autant de bénédictions
 37 que je donnai | de coups de pieds | à ma mule
 38 pour m'éloigner promptement | de lui ; | mais la
 39 maudite bête | n'en alla pas plus vite : la longue
 40 habitude | qu'elle avait contractée | de marcher | pas-à-pas
 41 sous mon oncle, | lui avait fait perdre | l'usage du

1 DEPARTURE OF GIL-BLAS FOR SALAMANCA.

2 Previous to my departure | I went to kiss | my father | and
 3 mother, | who did not spare me | remonstrances.
 4 They exhorted me | to be grateful | towards my
 5 uncle, | to live an honest man, | and above all
 6 not to take | the goods of others ; | and they gave me
 7 their benediction, | which was | the only thing | that
 8 I expected from them. | Immediately | I mounted my mule,
 9 and went out | of the town. | —Behold me then | out
 10 of Oviedo, | on the way to Pegnaflor, | master of
 11 my actions, | of a bad mule, | forty
 12 good ducats, | and some reals. | The
 13 first thing | which I did, | was to count | and
 14 count again | my ducats | in my hat. | I
 15 could not contain my joy ; | I had never seen
 16 so much money ; | I could not tire myself | in looking at it
 17 and handling it. | I was counting it | perhaps for the
 18 twentieth time, | when suddenly | my mule stopped
 19 in the midst | of the high road. | I judged that
 20 something frightened him : | I looked | and perceived
 21 on the ground | a hat overturned ; | at the same time
 22 I heard | a lamentable voice | which uttered | these
 23 words : | “ Mr. traveller, | have pity, | I pray
 24 on a poor lame soldier ; | throw, | if you please,
 25 some pieces of money | into this hat ; | you
 26 will be rewarded for it | in the other world.”
 27 I then turned my eyes | on the side | whence the voice came :
 28 I saw | at the foot of a bush | a kind of soldier,
 29 holding in his hand | a musket | with which
 30 he was taking aim at me. | At this sight | that made me
 31 tremble, | I stopped short ; | I promptly concealed
 32 my ducats, | I threw some reals
 33 into the hat | and had the precaution | to throw them
 34 one after another, | to shew the soldier, | that
 35 I acted nobly ; | he was satisfied | with my
 36 generosity, | and gave me | as many blessings
 37 as I gave | kicks | to my mule
 38 in order to get quickly away | from him, | but the
 39 cursed animal | did not go any faster for that : | the long
 40 habit | which he had contracted | to walk | step by step
 41 under my uncle, | had made him lose | the use of the

1 galop. | —Je ne tirai pas | de cette aventure
 2 un augure trop favorable | pour mon voyage.
 3 Je me représentai | que je n'étais pas encore
 4 à Salamanque, | et que je pourrais bien
 5 faire une plus mauvaise rencontre.

6 SOLUTION DE DEUX QUESTIONS.

7 Le premier d'entre les vieillards | ouvrit le livre | des lois de
 8 Minos. | C'était un grand livre | qu'on tenait d'ordinaire
 9 renfermé | dans une cassette d'or | avec des parfums.
 10 Tous les vieillards | le baisèrent | avec respect ; | car
 11 ils disent, | qu'après les dieux, | de qui les bonnes lois
 12 viennent, | rien ne doit être | si sacré aux hommes
 13 que les lois | destinées à les rendre bons, | sages et
 14 heureux. | Ceux qui sont chargés | de l'exécution des
 15 lois | pour gouverner les hommes | doivent toujours
 16 se laisser gouverner | par les lois. | C'est la loi
 17 et non pas l'homme | qui doit régner. | Tel était
 18 le discours de ces Sages. | —Celui qui présidait
 19 proposa trois questions, | qui devaient être décidées
 20 par les maximes | de Minos. | La première question
 21 fut : | Quel est le plus libre. | d'entre les hommes ?
 22 Les uns répondirent | que c'était un roi | qui avait
 23 un empire absolu | sur ses sujets, | et qui était
 24 victorieux | de tous ses ennemis. | D'autres soutinrent
 25 que c'était | un homme si riche | qu'il pouvait
 26 contenter tous ses désirs. | D'autres dirent | que c'était
 27 un homme | qui n'était pas marié, | et qui voyageait
 28 pendant toute sa vie | en divers pays, | sans être jamais
 29 assujetti aux lois | d'aucune nation. | D'autres
 30 s'imaginèrent | que c'était un barbare, | qui, vivant
 31 de sa chasse | au milieu des bois, | était indépendant
 32 de tout gouvernement | et de tout besoin. | D'autres
 33 crurent | que c'était un homme | nouvellement affranchi ;
 34 parce qu'en sortant | des rigueurs | de la servitude,
 35 il jouissait, | plus qu'aucun autre, | des douceurs de
 36 la liberté. | Et enfin d'autres | s'avisèrent de dire
 37 que c'était un homme mourant, | parceque la mort
 38 le délivrait de tout, | et que tous les hommes
 39 ensemble | n'avaient plus | aucun pouvoir | sur lui.
 40 Quand mon tour | fut venu | je n'eus pas de peine

1 gallop.—I did not draw | from this adventure
 2 too favorable an omen | for my journey.
 3 I represented to myself | that I was not yet
 4 at Salamanca, | and that I might indeed
 5 meet with some worse accident.

6 SOLUTION OF TWO QUESTIONS.

7 The first from among the old men | opened the book | of the
 8 Minos. | It was a large book | which was usually kept [laws of
 9 enclosed | in a casket of gold | with perfumes.
 10 All the old men | kissed it | with respect ; | for
 11 they say, | that after the gods, | from whom the good laws
 12 come, | nothing ought to be | so sacred to men
 13 as the laws | destined to make them good, | wise, and
 14 happy. | Those who are charged | with the execution of the
 15 laws | for the government of men, | should always
 16 suffer themselves to be governed | by the laws. | It is the law
 17 and not the man | that ought to reign. | Such was
 18 the discourse of those Sages. | He who presided
 19 proposed three questions, | which were to be decided
 20 by the maxims | of Minos. | The first question
 21 was : | Who is most free | among men ?
 22 Some answered | that it was a king | who had
 23 an absolute empire | over his subjects, | and who was
 24 victorious | over all his enemies. | Others maintained
 25 that it was | a man so rich | that he was able
 26 to content all his wishes. | Others said | that it was
 27 a man | who was not married, | and who travelled
 28 all his life | in different countries, | without ever being
 29 subjected to the laws | of any nation. | Others
 30 imagined | that it was a barbarian | who living
 31 upon his chase | in the middle of woods, | was independent
 32 of all government | and of all want. | Others
 33 thought | that it was a man | lately enfranchised ;
 34 because in coming out | from the rigors | of servitude
 35 he enjoyed | more than any other | the sweets of
 36 liberty. | And in fine others | fancied to say
 37 that it was a dying man, | because death
 38 delivered him from every thing, | and because all men
 39 united | had no longer | any power | over him.
 40 when his turn | was come | I had no difficulty

1 à répondre, | parce que je n'avais pas oublié | ce que
 2 Mentor | m'avait dit souvent. | Le plus libre des
 3 hommes, dis-je, | est celui qui
 4 peut être libre | dans l'esclavage même. | En quelque
 5 pays, | en quelque condition | qu'on soit, | on est
 6 très-libre, | pourvu qu'on craigne | les dieux, | et
 7 qu'on ne craigne qu'eux. | En un mot, | l'homme
 8 vraiment libre, | est celui qui, | dégagé de toute
 9 crainte | et de tous désirs, | n'est soumis qu'aux dieux
 10 et à sa raison. | Les vieillards s'entre-regardèrent
 11 en souriant, | et furent surpris de voir | que ma réponse
 12 fût précisément | celle de Minos.
 13 Ils proposèrent ensuite | la seconde question | en
 14 ces termes : | Quel est le plus malheureux
 15 de tous les hommes ? | Chacun disait
 16 ce qui lui venait dans l'esprit. | L'un disait : | C'est un homme
 17 qui n'a ni biens, | ni santé, | ni honneur. | Un autre
 18 disait : | C'est un homme | qui n'a aucun ami.
 19 D'autres soutenaient | que c'était un homme | qui a
 20 des enfants ingrats | et indignes de lui. | Il vint
 21 un sage, | de l'île de Lesbos, | qui dit : | Le plus
 22 malheureux des hommes | est celui qui | croit l'être ;
 23 car le malheur | dépend moins | de ce qu'on souffre,
 24 que de l'impatience | avec la quelle | on augmente
 25 son malheur. | A ces mots | toute l'assemblée
 26 se récria : | on applaudit | et chacun crut
 27 qu'il remporterait le prix | sur cette question.
 28 Mais on me demanda | ma pensée, | et je répondis,
 29 suivant les maximes | de Mentor : | Le plus
 30 malheureux des hommes | est un roi- | qui croit être
 31 heureux | en rendant | les autres hommes misérables.
 32 Il est doublement malheureux | par son aveuglement ;
 33 car ne connaissant pas | son malheur,
 34 il ne peut s'en guérir ; | il craint même
 35 de le connaître. | La vérité ne peut | percer la foule
 36 des flatteurs | pour aller jusqu'à lui. | Il est
 37 tyrannisé par ses passions ; | il ne connaît pas ses
 38 devoirs ; | il n'a jamais goûté | le plaisir de faire
 39 le bien, | ni senti les charmes | de la vertu : | il est
 40 malheureux | et digne de l'être ; | son malheur
 41 augmente chaque jour ; | il court à sa perte : | et les
 42 dieux | lui préparent | des punitions éternelles.

1 in answering, | because I had not forgotten | what
 2 Mentor | had often told me. | The freest of
 3 men, said I, | is he who
 4 can be free | even in slavery. | In whatever
 5 country, | or in whatever condition | one may be, | he is
 6 very free, | provided he fears | the gods, | and
 7 fears only them. | In a word, | the man
 8 truly free, | is he who | free from all
 9 fear, | and all desires, | is subject only to the gods,
 10 and his reason. | The fathers looked upon each other
 11 smiling, | and were surprised to see | that my answer
 12 was precisely | that of Minos.
 13 They proposed afterwards | the second question | in
 14 these terms : | Who is the most unfortunate
 15 of all men?—Every one said
 16 what came to his mind. | One said : | It is a man
 17 who has neither property, | nor health, | nor honor. | Ano-
 18 said : | It is a man | who has no friend. [ther
 19 Others maintained | that it was a man | who has
 20 children ungrateful | and unworthy of him. | There came
 21 a sage, | a native of Lesbos, | who said : | The most
 22 unhappy of men | is he who | thinks himself so ;
 23 for unhappiness | depends less | on what one suffers,
 24 than on his impatience | with which | he increases
 25 his unhappiness. | At these words | the whole assembly
 26 cried out : | they applauded, | and each one believed
 27 that he would win the prize | on this question.
 28 But they asked me | my thought | and I answered,
 29 agreeably to the maxims | of Mentor : | The most
 30 unhappy of men | is a king | who fancies to be
 31 happy | in rendering | the other men miserable.
 32 He is doubly unhappy | for his blindness,
 33 for, not knowing | his wretchedness,
 34 he cannot be cured of it ; | he even fears
 35 to know it. | Truth cannot | pierce the crowd
 36 of flatterers | to reach him. | He is
 37 a slave to his own passions ; | he does not know his
 38 duties ; | he has never tasted | the pleasure of doing
 39 good, | nor felt the charms | of virtue : | he is
 40 unhappy | and deserves to be so ; | his unhappiness
 41 increases every day ; | he runs to ruin | and the
 42 gods | prepare for him | eternal punishments.

1 Toute l'assemblée | avoua | que j'avais vaincu | le
 2 sage Lesbien ; | et les vieillards | déclarèrent que
 3 j'avais rencontré | le vrai sens | de Minos.

LE SULTAN MAHMOUD.

4
 5 J'ai lu quelque part | que le Sultan Mahmoud | par
 6 ses guerres | au dehors | et sa tyrannie
 7 au dedans, | avait rempli | ses états | de ruine | et de
 8 désolation, | et avait dépeuplé | l'empire persan.
 9 Le vizir, | c'est-à-dire, | le premier ministre | de ce
 10 grand Sultan, | qui était un plaisant | ou un enthousiaste
 11 prétendait avoir appris | d'un certain derviche,
 12 religieux Musulman, | à comprendre | le langage | des
 13 oiseaux ; | de sorte qu' | il n'y avait pas | un oiseau
 14 qui pût ouvrir le bec, | sans que le vizir sût | ce qu'il
 15 disait. | Comme il était | un soir | avec l'empereur,
 16 à leur retour | de la chasse, | ils virent une couple | de
 17 hiboux | sur un arbre | qui croissait | près d'un vieux mur,
 18 dans un monceau | de décombres. | Je voudrais bien savoir,
 19 dit le Sultan, | ce que ces deux hiboux | disent ;
 20 écoutez leur discours, | et rendez m'en compte.
 21 Le vizir | s'approcha de l'arbre, | feignant d'être
 22 très-attentif | aux deux hiboux. | A son retour | auprès du
 23 Sultan : | Seigneur, dit il, | j'ai entendu | une partie
 24 de leur conversation, | mais je n'ose | vous dire | ce que c'est.
 25 Le Sultan | ne se contenta pas | d'une telle réponse,
 26 mais il le força, | à répéter mot-à-mot | tout ce que les
 27 hiboux | avaient dit. | — Il faut donc que vous sachiez,
 28 dit le vizir, | qu'un de ces hiboux | a un fils, | et l'autre
 29 une fille, | et qu'ils désirent les marier.
 30 J'ai compris | que le père du fils | disait au père | de la
 31 fille : | Frère, je consens à ce mariage, | pourvu que
 32 vous donniez à votre fille | cinquante villages ruinés
 33 pour sa dot. | A quoi l'autre | répliqua :
 34 Au lieu de cinquante | je lui en donnerai cinq-cents,
 35 si vous voulez. | Que Dieu accorde | une longue vie
 36 au Sultan Mahmoud ; | tant qu'il règnera | sur nous,
 37 nous ne manquerons jamais de | villages ruinés.
 38 L'histoire dit que | le Sultan | fut si touché de
 39 cette fable, | qu'il rebâtit les villes | et les villages
 40 qui avaient été détruits, | et que | depuis ce temps,
 41 il consulta | le bien de son peuple.

1 All the assembly | confessed | that I had vanquished | the
 2 wise Lesbian ; | and the fathers | declared that ,
 3 I had met | the true sense | of Minos.

4 THE SULTAN MAHMOUD,

5 I read somewhere | that the Sultan Mahmoud | by
 6 his wars | abroad | and his tyranny
 7 at home, | had filled | his dominions | with ruin | and
 8 desolation, | and had depopulated | the Persian empire.
 9 The vizier, | that is to say, | the prime minister | to this
 10 great Sultan, | who was a humorist, | or an enthusiast,
 11 pretended to have learned | of a certain dervis,
 12 Mahometan monk, | to understand | the language | of
 13 birds ; | so that | there was not | a bird,
 14 that could open his mouth, | but the vizier knew | what
 15 he said. | As he was | one evening | with the emperor,
 16 at their return | from hunting, | they saw a couple | of
 17 owls, | on a tree, | that grew | near an old wall
 18 out of a heap | of rubbish. | I would fain know
 19 said the Sultan, | what those two owls | are saying ;
 20 listen to their discourse, | and give me an account of it.
 21 The vizier | approached the tree, | pretending to be
 22 very attentive | to the two owls. | Upon his return | to the
 23 Sultan: | Sir, said he, | I have heard | part
 24 of their conversation, | but I dare not | tell you | what it is.
 25 The Sultan | was not satisfied | with such an answer,
 26 but he forced him, | to repeat word for word, | all that the
 27 owls | had said. | You must know then,
 28 said the vizier, | that one of these owls | has a son, | and the other
 29 a daughter, | and they wish to marry them.
 30 I understood | that the father of the son | said to the father | of the
 31 daughter : | Brother, | I consent to this marriage, | provided
 32 you will settle upon your daughter | fifty ruined villages ;
 33 for her portion. | To which the other | replied :
 34 Instead of fifty | I will give her five hundred,
 35 if you please. | God grant | a long life
 36 to the Sultan Mahmoud ; | whilst he reigns | over us,
 37 we shall never want | ruined villages.
 38 History says that | the Sultan | was so touched with
 39 this fable, | that he rebuilt the towns | and villages
 40 which had been destroyed, | and that | since that time
 41 he consulted | the good of his people,

1 EPISODE D' IDOMENEE.

2 Idoménée, | fils de Deucalion | et petit-fils de Minos,
 3 était allé | comme les autres rois | de la Grèce | au siège
 4 de Troie. | Après la ruine | de cette ville, | il fit voile
 5 pour revenir en Crète ; | mais la tempête | fut si
 6 violente, | que le pilote | de son vaisseau, | et tous les
 7 autres | qui étaient expérimentés | dans la navigation,
 8 crurent | que leur naufrage | était inévitable.
 9 Chacun avait la mort | devant les yeux ; | chacun
 10 voyait | les abîmes ouverts | pour l'engloutir, | chacun
 11 déplorait | son malheur, | n'espérant pas même
 12 le triste repos | des ombres qui traversent | le Styx
 13 après avoir regu | la sépulture. | Idoménée levant
 14 les yeux | et les mains | vers le ciel, | invoquait Neptune.
 15 O puissant Dieu, | s'écriait il, | toi qui tiens | l'empire
 16 des ondes, | daigne écouter | un malheureux : | si je revois
 17 l'île de Crète | malgré la fureur | des vents,
 18 je t'immolerai | la première tête | qui se présentera
 19 à mes yeux. | Cependant | son fils | impatient de
 20 revoir | son père, | se hâtait | d'aller au devant de lui
 21 pour l'embrasser : | malheureux, | qui ne savait pas
 22 que c'était | courir à sa perte ! | Le père échappé
 23 à la tempête | arrivait dans le port désiré ; | il remerciait
 24 Neptune | d'avoir écouté ses vœux : | mais bientôt il
 25 sentit | combien ses vœux lui étaient funestes. | Un
 26 pressentiment | de son malheur | lui donnait
 27 un cuisant repentir | de son vœu indiscret ; | il craignait
 28 d'arriver | parmi les siens, | et il appréhendait de revoir
 29 ce qu'il avait de plus cher | au monde. | Mais la cruelle
 30 Némésis. | déesse impitoyable | qui veille | pour punir
 31 les hommes, | et surtout | les rois orgueilleux | poussait
 32 Idoménée | d'une main fatale et invisible. | Il arrive :
 33 à peine ose-t-il | lever les yeux. | Il voit son fils :
 34 il recule, | saisi d'horreur. | Ses yeux cherchent
 35 mais en vain, | quelqu'autre tête | moins chère
 36 qui puisse | lui servir de victime. | Cependant
 37 le fils se jette | à son cou, | et est | tout étonné
 38 que son père | réponde si mal | à sa tendresse ;
 39 il le voit | fondant en larmes. | Oh ! mon père, | dit il,
 40 d'où vient cette tristesse ? | Après une si longue absence
 41 êtes vous fâché | de vous revoir | dans votre royaume,
 42 et de faire la joie | de votre fils ? | Qu'ai je fait ? | Vous

1 EPISODE OF IDOMENEUS.

2 Idomeneus, | son of Deucalion, | and grandson of Minos
 3 had gone | as the other kings | of Greece | to the siege
 4 of Troy. | After the ruin | of that city, | he set sail
 5 to return to Crete ; | but the tempest | was so
 6 violent, | that the pilot | of his vessel, | and all the
 7 others | who had experience in navigation,
 8 thought | that their shipwreck | was unavoidable.
 9 Every one had death | before his eyes ; | every one
 10 saw | the abyss opened | to swallow him up. | Every one
 11 deplored | his misfortune, | hoping not even for
 12 the sad repose | of the shades that cross | the Styx
 13 after having received | sepulture. | Idomeneus raising
 14 his eyes | and hands | toward heaven, | invoked Neptune.
 15 O powerful god ! | exclaimed he, | thou who holdest | the empire
 16 of the waves, | deign to hear | an unfortunate man : | if I see again
 17 the island of Crete, | notwithstanding the fury | of the winds,
 18 I will immolate to thee | the first head | that will present it-
 19 to my eyes. | However, | his son | impatient [self
 20 to see again | his father, | hastened | to go to meet him,
 21 to embrace him ; | unhappy youth, | who did not know
 22 that he was | running to his ruin ! | The father escaping
 23 the tempest | arrived in the desired port ; | he thanked
 24 Neptune | for having listened to his vows : | but he soon
 25 felt | how fatal his vows were to him. | A
 26 presentiment | of his misfortune | gave him
 27 a smarting repentance | of his indiscreet vow ; | he feared
 28 to arrive | among his people, | and he apprehended to see again
 29 what he held most dear | in the world. | But the cruel
 30 Nemesis, | unmerciful goddess, | who watches | to punish
 31 men, | and especially | proud kings, | pushed
 32 Idomeneus | with a fatal and invisible hand. | He arrives :
 33 scarcely does he dare | raise his eyes. | He sees his son ;
 34 he starts back, | seized with horror. | His eyes seek
 35 but in vain | some other head | less dear,
 36 that might | serve him as a victim. | However,
 37 the son throws himself | on his neck | and is | quite aston-
 38 that his father | answers so ill | to his tenderness : [ished
 39 he sees him | melting into tears. | Oh ! my father, said he,
 40 whence comes this sadness ? | After so long an absence,
 41 you are sorry | to see yourself again | in your kingdom,
 42 and to make the joy | of your son ? | What have I done ? | You

1 détournes vos yeux, | de peur de me voir ! | Le père
 2 ccablé de douleur | ne répondit rien. | Enfin, après
 3 de profonds soupirs : | “ Ah ! Neptune, | que t'ai-je promis !
 4 à quel prix | m'as-tu garanti | du naufrage ! | rends-moi
 5 aux vagues | et aux rochers | qui devaient, | en me brisant,
 6 finir ma triste vie ; | laisse vivre mon fils. | O dieu cruel !
 7 tiens, | voilà mon sang, | épargne le sien. | En parlant
 8 ainsi | il tira son épée | pour se percer ; | mais ceux qui
 9 étaient | autour de lui | arrêtaient sa main.
 10 Le vieillard Sophronime, | interprète de la volonté
 11 des dieux, | lui assura | qu'il pourrait contenter
 12 Neptune, | sans donner la mort | à son fils. | Votre promesse,
 13 disait-il, | a été imprudente : | les dieux ne veulent pas
 14 être honorés | par la cruauté ; | gardez-vous bien d'ajouter
 15 à la faute de votre promesse | celle de l'accomplir
 16 contre les lois | de la nature. | Offrez à Neptune
 17 cent taureaux | plus blancs que la neige ;
 18 faites couler leur sang | autour de son autel | couronné
 19 de fleurs ; | faites fumer un doux encens | en l'honneur
 20 de ce dieu. | Idoménée | écoutait ce discours
 21 la tête baissée | et sans répondre ; | la fureur était allumée
 22 dans ses yeux ; | son visage | pâle et défiguré | changeait
 23 à tout moment ; | on voyait ses membres tremblants.
 24 Cependant | son fils lui disait : | me voici, | mon père,
 25 votre fils | est prêt à mourir | pour apaiser le dieu ;
 26 n'attirez pas sur vous | sa colère, | je meurs content,
 27 puisque ma mort | vous aura garanti de la vôtre.
 28 Frappez, | mon père, | ne craignez point de trouver | en
 29 moi | un fils indigne de vous, | qui craigne de mourir.
 30 En ce moment | Idoménée | tout hors de lui | et
 31 comme déchiré | par les furies infernales | surprend
 32 tous ceux | qui l'observaient de près ; | il enfonce son
 33 épée | dans le cœur | de cet enfant : | il la retire
 34 toute fumante | et pleine de sang | pour la plonger
 35 dans son propre sein : | il est encore une fois
 36 retenu par ceux | qui l'entourent.
 37 L'enfant tombe | dans son sang ; | ses yeux se couvrent
 38 des ombres de la mort ; | il les entr'ouvre | à
 39 la lumière, | mais à peine | l'a-t-il trouvée | qu'il
 40 ne peut plus la supporter. | Tel qu'un beau lis
 41 au milieu des champs, | coupé dans sa racine | par le
 42 tranchant | de la charrue | languit | et ne se soutient plus ;

1 ~~Take~~ away your eyes, | for fear of seeing me ! | The father,
 2 overwhelmed with grief, | answered nothing. | In fine, after
 3 deep sighs : | "Ah! Neptune, | what have I promised thee?
 4 at what price | hast thou saved me | from shipwreck? | restore me
 5 to the waves, | and to the rocks | that were, | in breaking me,
 6 to finish my sad life ; | suffer my son to live. | O cruel god!
 7 hold, | here is my blood, | spare his. | In speaking
 8 thus | he drew his sword | to pierce himself ; | but those who
 9 were | around him | stopped his hand.
 10 The venerable Sophronimus, | interpreter of the will
 11 of the gods, | assured him | that he could content
 12 Neptune, | without killing | his son. | Your promise,
 13 said he, | was imprudent : | the gods do not wish
 14 to be honored | by cruelty ; | take great care not to add
 15 to the fault of your promise | that of accomplishing it
 16 against the laws | of nature. | Offer to Neptune
 17 a hundred bulls, | whiter than snow ;
 18 cause their blood to flow | round his altar, | crowned
 19 with flowers ; | make a sweet incense smoke | in honor
 20 of this god. | Idomeneus | listened to this discourse [died
 21 with his head cast down, | without answering ; | fury was kin-
 22 in his eyes ; | his face, | pale and disfigured, | changed
 23 every moment ; | his limbs were seen trembling.
 24 Meanwhile | his son told him : | behold me, | my father,
 25 your son | is ready to die | to appease the god ;
 26 do not draw upon you | his anger : | I die contented,
 27 since my death | will have prevented yours.
 28 Strike, | my father, | be not afraid to find | in
 29 me | a son unworthy of you, | who fears to die.
 30 At this moment, | Idomeneus, | quite beside himself, | and
 31 as if torn | by the infernal furies, | surprises
 32 all those | who observed him closely ; | he thrusts his
 33 sword | into the heart | of this child : | he draws it out,
 34 all reeking | and full of blood, | to plunge it
 35 into his own breast : | he is once more
 36 prevented by those | who surround him.
 37 The child falls | in his blood ; | his eyes are covered
 38 by the shades of death ; | he half opens them | to
 39 light ; | but scarcely | has he found it | when he
 40 can no longer bear it. | As a fine life
 41 in the midst of the fields | cut in its root | by the [longer ;
 42 edge | of the plough, | languishes | and supports itself no

1 il n'a pas encore perdu | cette vive blancheur | et cet éclat
 2 qui charme les yeux, | mais la terre | ne le nourrit plus,
 3 et sa vie est éteinte : | ainsi le fils d'Idoménée, | comme
 4 une jeune et tendre fleur, | est cruellement moissonné,
 5 dès son premier âge.
 6 Le père, | dans l'excès | de sa douleur, | devient insensible ;
 7 il ne sait où il est, | ni ce qu'il fait, | ni ce qu'il
 8 doit faire ; | il marche chancelant | vers la ville, | et
 9 demande son fils.
 10 Cependant le peuple, | touché de compassion | pour
 11 l'enfant, | et d'horreur | pour l'action barbare | du père
 12 s'écrie | que les dieux justes | l'ont livré | aux furies.
 13 La fureur | leur fournit des armes ; | ils prennent
 14 des bâtons | et des pierres ; | la discorde souffle | dans
 15 tous les cœurs | un venin mortel. | Les Crétois, | les sages
 16 Crétois | oublient la sagesse | qu'ils ont tant aimée ;
 17 ils ne reconnaissent plus | le petit-fils du sage Minos.
 18 Les amis d'Idoménée | ne trouvent plus de salut
 19 pour lui | qu'en le ramenant | vers ses vaisseaux :
 20 ils s'embarquent | avec lui ; | ils fuient | à la merci
 21 des ondes. | Idoménée | revenant à soi | les remercie
 22 de l'avoir arraché | d'une terre | qu'il a arrosée
 23 du sang de son fils, | et qu'il ne saurait plus habiter.
 24 Les vents les conduisent | vers l'Hespérie, | et ils
 25 vont fonder | un nouveau royaume | dans le pays
 26 des Salentins.

27 LE RAT DE VILLE ET LE RAT DES CHAMPS.

28 Un rat de ville | alla un jour | faire une visite | à un
 29 rat des champs, | un de ses amis. | Je suis bien
 30 aise | de vous voir, | dit le dernier : | j'espère que vous
 31 dînerez | aujourd'hui avec moi. | Volontiers, | dit le
 32 premier, | je suis las | de la bonne chère | que je fais
 33 à la ville. | Le rat des champs court, | et apporte du lard,
 34 et quelques petits morceaux | d'un fromage pourri ;
 35 c'était tout ce qu'il avait ; | il était pauvre. | Le
 36 rat de ville | ne mangeait presque rien ; | il était
 37 accoutumé | à faire meilleure chère. | Le repas étant
 38 fini : | Venez ce soir | souper avec moi | à la ville,
 39 dit-il, | à son camarade : | vous verrez | la différence
 40 qu'il y a | entre mes repas | et les vôtres. | En vérité,
 41 mon cher ami, | je vous plains | très-sincèrement ;

1 it has not yet lost | that lively whiteness | and that lustre
 2 which charms the eyes, | but the earth | nourishes it no more,
 3 and its life is extinguished: | thus the son of Idomeneus, | like
 4 a young and tender flower, | is cruelly cut off
 5 in his early age.
 6 The father, | in the excess | of his grief, | becomes insensible;
 7 he knows not where he is, | nor what he is doing, | nor what he
 8 is to do; | he walks tottering | towards the town, | and
 9 asks for his son.
 10 However, the people, | touched with compassion | for
 11 the child, | and horror | for the barbarous action | of the father,
 12 exclaim | that the just gods | have given him up | to the furies.
 13 Rage | furnishes them with arms; | they take
 14 sticks | and stones; | discord infuses | into
 15 every heart | a mortal venom. | The Cretans, | the wise
 16 Cretans | forget that wisdom | which they loved so much;
 17 they no longer recognise | the grandson of the wise Minos.
 18 The friends of Idomeneus, | find no longer any safety
 19 for him, | but in taking him back | to his vessels:
 20 they embark | with him; | they flee | at the mercy
 21 of the waves. | Idomeneus, | having recovered, | thanks them
 22 for having forced him | from a land | which he stained
 23 with the blood of his son, | and which he could no longer in-
 24 The winds waft them | towards Hesperia, | and they [habit.
 25 go to found | a new kingdom | in the country
 26 of the Salentines.

27 THE CITY RAT AND THE COUNTRY RAT.

28 A city rat | went one day | to pay a visit | to a
 29 country rat, | a friend of his. | I am very
 30 glad | to see you, | said the latter: | I hope that you
 31 will dine | with me to-day. | Willingly, | said the
 32 former, | I am tired | of the good cheer | which I make
 33 in the city. | The country rat runs, | and brings bacon,
 34 and some little pieces | of a rotten cheese;
 35 it was all he had; | he was poor. | The
 36 city rat | ate scarcely any thing; | he was
 37 accustomed | to make better cheer. | The repast being
 38 over: | Come this evening | to sup with me | in town,
 39 said he | to his comrade: | you will see | the difference
 40 there is | between my meals | and yours. | Indeed,
 41 my dear friend, | I pity you | very sincerely;

1 je ne sais pas comment | vous ne mourez pas de faim :
 2 je vous engage | à rester à la ville | avec moi :
 3 mon trou | est à votre service ; | vous y vivrez très-bien ;
 4 ma table | sera la vôtre, | et vous ferez toujours bonne
 5 chère. | J'accepte votre invitation, | dit le rat des champs ;
 6 il me tarde d'être | votre commensal. | Les deux
 7 amis partent, | et arrivent | vers minuit | à une grande
 8 maison. | Le rat de ville conduit | son camarade
 9 dans un beau salon, | étale devant lui, | sur le coin
 10 d'un tapis de Perse, | les mets les plus friands,
 11 poulet, dindon, &c. | Frère, | comment trouvez-vous
 12 ce rôti ? | N'est-il pas bien tendre ? | Que pensez-vous
 13 de ce pâté de pigeons ? | Avouez que | vous
 14 ne faites jamais | de si bons repas | à la campagne.
 15 Pendant qu'il fesait ainsi | l'éloge de ses mets,
 16 sans donner le temps | à son camarade | d'avalier
 17 un morceau, | un domestique ouvre la porte : | Adieu
 18 nos rats ! | ils décampent | aussi vite qu'ils peuvent.
 19 Le rat des champs | se cache | dans un coin ; | il
 20 tremblait | de tous ses membres, | et maudissait
 21 cent fois, | ami, rôti, pâté. | Le rat de ville
 22 n'était pas si craintif ; | il était en sûreté | dans son
 23 trou : | il avait oublié | de le montrer | à son ami.
 24 Cependant le domestique | se retire : | le rat de ville
 25 reparait aussitôt, | et rappelle son camarade.
 26 Venez, venez, | le danger est passé | pour le reste
 27 de la nuit : | finissons notre repas, | et puis nous aurons
 28 pour notre dessert, | du fruit délicieux, | des noisettes | et
 29 des châtaignes. | Je vous remercie, | dit le rat des champs
 30 encore effrayé : | adieu, | il faut que je retourne
 31 au logis. | Je n'envie pas | l'abondance, ni la délicatesse
 32 de vos repas : | je préfère | mes grignons | à vos
 33 friandises. | Fi du plaisir | que la crainte | peut
 34 corrompre !
 35 Une fortune médiocre, | avec la paix | et
 36 le contentement, | est préférable | à l'abondance
 37 accompagnée | de soins | et de crainte.

1 I do not know how | you do not die with hunger :
 2 I invite you | to remain in town | with me :
 3 my hole | is at your service ; | you will live very well there ;
 4 my table | will be yours, | and you will always make good
 5 cheer. | I accept your invitation, | said the country rat ;
 6 I long to be | your table companion. | The two
 7 friends set out, | and arrive | towards midnight | at a large
 8 house. | The city rat conducts | his comrade
 9 into a fine saloon, | displays before him | on the corner
 10 of a Persian carpet, | the most dainty dishes,
 11 chicken, turkey, &c. | Brother, | how do you find
 12 this roast meat ? | Is it not very tender ? | What think you
 13 of this pigeon pie ? | Confess that | you
 14 never make | so good repasts | in the country.
 15 Whilst he was thus making | the eulogy of his dishes,
 16 without giving time | to his comrade | to swallow
 17 a morsel, | a servant opens the door : | Farewell to
 18 our rats. | They decamp, | as fast as they can.
 19 The country rat | hides himself | in a corner ; | he
 20 was trembling | in all his limbs, | and cursed
 21 a hundred times, | friend, roast meat, pie. | The city rat
 22 was not so afraid ; | he was in safety | in his
 23 hole : | he had forgotten | to show it | to his friend.
 24 In the mean while the servant | retires : | the city rat
 25 reappears immediately, | and recalls his comrade.
 26 Come, come, | the danger is over | for the rest
 27 of the night : | let us end our repast, | and then we shall have
 28 for our desert, | delicious fruit, | hazlenuts | and
 29 chesnuts. | I thank you, | said the country rat,
 30 still frightened : | Adieu, | I must return
 31 home. | I do not envy | the abundance, | nor the delicacy
 32 of your repasts : | I prefer | my bits of crusts | to your
 33 dainties. | Fie upon the pleasure | which fear | can
 34 corrupt !
 35 A middling fortune, | with peace and
 36 contentment, | is preferable | to abundance
 37 accompanied | by cares | and fear.

1 CONTE ORIENTAL.

2 Sous le règne | d'un roi de Perse, | dont j'ai oublié le nom,
 3 un marchand de Bassora, | fut ruiné | par de mauvaises
 4 spéculations. | Il recueillit | les débris | de sa fortune,
 5 et se retira | au fond | de la province | de Kousistan.
 6 Là il acheta | une petite maison de campagne,
 7 et un champ, | qu'il cultiva | fort-mal, | parce qu'il
 8 pensait toujours | aux agréments | de son ancienne
 9 profession. | Le chagrin abrégé | les jours de ce
 10 marchand. | Se sentant | près de sa fin, | il appela
 11 auprès de lui | quatre fils | qu'il avait, | et il leur parla
 12 ainsi : | Mes chers enfants, | je n'ai d'autre bien
 13 à vous laisser | que cette maison, | et la connaissance
 14 d'un secret | que je n'ai pas jugé à propos | de vous révéler
 15 plus-tôt. | Dans le temps | de mon opulence | j'avais
 16 pour ami | le génie Alzim. | Il me promit | d'avoir soin
 17 de vous | quand je ne serais plus, | et de partager
 18 un trésor | parmi vous. | Ce génie | demeure près d'ici,
 19 dans la forêt de K. | Allez le trouver, | demandez-lui
 20 ce trésor, | mais | gardez-vous bien de croire. . .
 21 La mort | ne lui permit pas | d'achever. | Les quatre
 22 fils du marchand, | après avoir pleuré | et enterré
 23 leur père | allèrent à la forêt de K. | Ils s'informèrent
 24 de la demeure | du génie Alzim. | Ils n'eurent pas de peine
 25 à la trouver. | Alzim était connu | de tout le pays :
 26 il accueillait | avec bonté | tous ceux | qui venaient
 27 le voir, | il écoutait | leurs plaintes, | les consolait,
 28 leur prêtait | de l'argent, | quand ils en avaient besoin ;
 29 mais ces bienfaits | étaient accordés | à une condition ;
 30 les conseils | qu'il donnait | devaient être suivis
 31 aveuglément : | nul n'était admis | dans son palais
 32 avant d'avoir | prêté serment | de se soumettre
 33 à cette condition. | Ce serment | n'effraya pas
 34 les trois fils aînés | du marchand : | le quatrième
 35 qui se nommait Taï, | trouva | cette cérémonie
 36 ridicule. | Cependant | il voulait entrer | et recevoir
 37 le trésor : | il jura donc | comme ses frères ; | mais
 38 réfléchissant | aux dangereuses conséquences | de
 39 ce serment indiscret, | se rappelant | que son père
 40 qui avait coutume | de visiter ce palais, | avait passé
 41 sa vie | à faire des sottises, | il voulut | sans être
 42 parjure | se mettre à l'abri | de tout danger : | et

1 AN EASTERN TALE.

2 Under the reign | of a king of Persia, | whose name I have for-
 3 a merchant | of Bassora, | was ruined | by bad [gotten,
 4 speculations. | He collected | the wrecks | of his fortune,
 5 and retired | to the remotest part | of the province | of Kou-
 6 There he bought | a small country-house, [sistan.
 7 and a field, | which he cultivated | very badly, | because
 8 he was always thinking | of the advantages | of his former
 9 profession. | Grief shortened | the days of this
 10 merchant. | Feeling himself | near his end, | he called
 11 to him | four sons | whom he had, | and spoke to them
 12 thus : | My dear children, | I have no other property
 13 to leave you | but this house, | and the knowledge
 14 of a secret | which I did not think proper | to reveal to you
 15 sooner. | In the time | of my opulence | I had
 16 for a friend | the genius Alzim. | He promised me | to take
 17 of you | when I should be no more, | and to divide [care
 18 a treasure | amongst you. | This genius | lives close by,
 19 in the forest of K. | Go to him, | ask him for
 20 that treasure, | but | take care not to believe. . . .
 21 Death | did not allow him | to finish. | The four
 22 sons of the merchant, | after having bewailed | and buried
 23 their father | went to the forest of K. | They inquired
 24 for the residence | of the genius Alzim. | They had no trouble
 25 to find it. | Alzim was known | throughout the country :
 26 he received | kindly | all those | who came [them,
 27 to see him, | he listened to | their complaints, | consoled
 28 lent them | money, | when they were in want of it ;
 29 but these favors | were granted | on one condition ;
 30 the advice | which he gave | was to be followed
 31 blindly : | none was admitted | into his palace
 32 before having | taken oath | to submit himself
 33 to that condition. | That oath | did not frighten
 34 the three eldest sons | of the merchant : | the fourth
 35 who called himself Tai, | found | that ceremony
 36 ridiculous. | However, | he wished to go in, | and receive
 37 the treasure : | he then swore | like his brothers ; | but
 38 reflecting | on the dangerous consequences | of
 39 that indiscreet oath, | remembering | that his father,
 40 who was in the habit | of visiting this palace, | had spent
 41 his life | in committing blunders, | he wished, | without being
 42 a perjurer, | to secure himself | from all danger : | and

1 tandis qu'on le conduisait | vers le génie, | il se boucha
 2 les oreilles | avec de la cire odoriférante. | Ayant
 3 pris | cette précaution, | il se prosterna | devant
 4 le trône d'Alzim. | Alzim dit | aux quatre fils
 5 de son ancien ami | de se lever, | les embrassa,
 6 et ordonna | à des domestiques | d'apporter | un grand
 7 coffre | rempli de pièces d'or. | Voici, dit-il,
 8 le trésor | que je vous destinais. | Je vais le partager
 9 parmi vous, | et ensuite | je dirai | à chacun de vous
 10 la route | qu'il doit prendre | pour être | parfaitement
 11 heureux. | Tai n'entendait pas | ce que le génie
 12 disait, | mais il l'observait | attentivement, | et
 13 voyait | dans ses yeux, | et sur son visage | un air de
 14 finesse | et de malignité | qui lui donnait | beaucoup
 15 d'inquiétude. | Cependant | il regut avec
 16 reconnaissance | sa part | du trésor. | Alzim
 17 après les avoir ainsi enrichis, | prit | un ton affectueux,
 18 et leur dit : | Mes chers enfants, | votre bonne ou
 19 mauvaise destinée | tient à ce que vous rencontriez
 20 tôt ou tard | un certain être | nommé Bathmendi,
 21 dont | tout le monde parle, | mais que peu de gens
 22 connaissent. | Les malheureux humains | le cherchent
 23 tous à tâtons. | Moi qui vous aime, | je vais dire
 24 à chacun de vous | où il pourra | le trouver.
 25 A ces mots, | Alzim prit en particulier | Bekir,
 26 l'aîné | des quatre frères. | Mon fils, | lui dit-il,
 27 tu es né | avec du courage, | et tu as | beaucoup de talent
 28 pour la guerre ; | le roi de Perse | vient d'envoyer
 29 une armée | contre les Turcs ; | entre dans cette armée ;
 30 c'est dans le camp | des Perses | que tu trouveras
 31 Bathmendi. | Bekir | remercia le génie
 32 et devint impatient | de partir. | Alzim fit signe
 33 au second fils | d'approcher ; | c'était Mesrou.
 34 Tu as de l'esprit, | lui dit-il, | de l'adresse | et
 35 une grande disposition | au mensonge ; | prends le
 36 chemin d'Ispahan ; | c'est à la cour que | tu dois
 37 chercher Bathmendi. | Il appela alors le
 38 troisième frère | qui s'appelait Sadder. | Toi, lui dit-il, |
 39 tu possèdes | une imagination vive et féconde, | tu vois
 40 les objets, | non comme ils sont, | mais comme tu veux
 41 qu'ils soient ; | tu as souvent du génie, | et pas toujours
 42 le sens commun ; | tu seras poète. | Prends le chemin

1 whilst they conducted him | to the genius, | he stopped
 2 his ears | with scented wax. | Having
 3 taken | this precaution, | he prostrated himself | before
 4 the throne of Alzim. | Alzim bid | the four sons
 5 of his ancient friend | to rise, | embraced them,
 6 and ordered | some servants | to bring | a large
 7 chest | filled with gold pieces. | Behold, said he,
 8 the treasure | which I destined for you. | I am going to di-
 9 amongst you, | and then | I will tell | each of you [vide it
 10 the road | which he must take | to be | perfectly
 11 happy. | Tai did not hear | what the genius
 12 was saying, | but observed him | attentively, | and
 13 saw | in his eyes, | and on his countenance | an air of
 14 cunning | and malignity, | which gave him | much
 15 uneasiness. | Nevertheless, | he received with
 16 gratitude | his share | of the treasure. | Alzim,
 17 after having thus enriched them, | took an affectionate tone,
 18 and told them : | My dear children, | your good or
 19 bad destiny | depends on your meeting,
 20 sooner or later, | a certain being | called Bathmendi,
 21 of whom | every body speaks, | but whom few people
 22 know. | The wretched mortals | seek him
 23 all in the dark. | I who love you | will whisper
 24 to each of you | where he will be able | to find him.
 25 At these words, | Alzim took aside | Bekir,
 26 the eldest | of the four brothers. | My son, | said he to him,
 27 you were born | with courage, | and you have | much talent
 28 for war ; | the king of Persia | has just sent
 29 an army | against the Turks ; | join that army ;
 30 it is in the camp | of the Persians | that you will find
 31 Bathmendi. | Bekir, | thanked the genius,
 32 and became impatient | to set out. | Alzim beckoned
 33 to the second son | to come near ; | it was Mesrou.
 34 You have sense, | said he to him, | some address | and
 35 great aptness | for lying ; | take the
 36 road to Isaphan ; | it is at court that | you are
 37 to seek Bathmendi. | He then called the [him,
 38 third brother, | whose name was Sadder. | You, said he to
 39 possess | a lively and fertile imagination. | you see
 40 objects, | not as they are, | but as you wish
 41 them to be ; | you often have genius, | and not always
 42 common sense ; | you must be a poet. | Take the way

1 d'Agra ; | c'est parmi | les beaux esprits | et les belles dames
 2 de cette ville, | que tu trouveras | Bathmendi. | — Taï
 3 s'avanga | à son tour ; | et grâces | aux boules de cire,
 4 il n'entendit pas | un mot | de ce qu'Alzim | lui disait.
 5 Les quatre frères | après avoir remercié | le bienfaisant génie,
 6 retournèrent | à leur demeure. | Les trois aînés | ne rêvaient
 7 qu'à Bathmendi. | Taï déboucha | ses oreilles,
 8 les entendit | arranger leur départ, | et proposer
 9 de vendre | leur petite maison | au premier offrant,
 10 pour en partager le prix. | Taï demanda à être
 11 l'acquéreur. | La maison | et le champ | ayant été estimés,
 12 il paya de son or | la part qui revenait | à chacun de
 13 ses frères, | leur souhaita | toutes sortes de prospérité,
 14 les embrassa | tendrement, | et resta tout seul | dans la
 15 maison paternelle. | — Ce fut alors | qu'il s'occupa de
 16 l'exécution | d'un projet | qui était depuis long-temps
 17 l'objet | de ses pensées. | Il était amoureux de
 18 la jeune Amine, | fille d'un fermier son voisin.
 19 Amine était | belle et sage. | Elle avait soin | du ménage
 20 de son père, | et ne demandait à Dieu | que deux choses ;
 21 la première, | que son père vécût | long-temps ; | la seconde
 22 qu'elle devint | la femme de Taï. | Ses souhaits furent
 23 exaucés. | Taï la demanda | et obtint sa main.
 24 Le père d'Amine | vint demeurer | chez son gendre,
 25 et lui enseigna | l'art de faire rendre à la terre | tout ce qu'
 26 elle peut donner | à ceux | qui la cultivent. | Le
 27 champ doubla de valeur ; | et comme | Taï était laborieux,
 28 et sa femme économe, | chaque année | augmenta
 29 leur revenu. | Amine eut | beaucoup d'enfants.
 30 Les enfants, | qui ruinent | les riches oisifs | des villes,
 31 enrichissent | le laboureur. | Au bout de douze ans
 32 Taï, | père de dix jolis enfants, époux d'une femme
 33 bonne et vertueuse, | maître de | plusieurs esclaves,
 34 et possesseur | de deux troupeaux, | était le plus heureux
 35 fermier | de sa province. | — Cependant | ses trois frères
 36 couraient après | Bathmendi. | Békir était arrivé
 37 au camp | des Perses. | Il se présenta | au grand vizir,
 38 et demanda à servir | dans le corps | qu'on exposait le plus.
 39 Sa figure, | sa bonne volonté | plurent au vizir,
 40 qui l'admit | dans un régiment | de cavalerie.
 41 Peu de jours après, | une bataille sanglante se donna.
 42 Békir fit des prodiges, | sauva la vie | à son général

1 to Agra ; | it is amongst | the wits | and the fine ladies
 2 of that city, | that you will find | Bathmendi. | —Tai
 3 advanced | in his turn ; | and thanks | to the wax balls,
 4 he did not hear | one word | of what Alzim | told him.—
 5 The four brothers, | having thanked | the beneficent genius,
 6 returned | to their home. | 'The three eldest | thought
 7 of nothing but Bathmendi. | 'Tai unstopped | his ears, and
 8 heard them | arranging their departure, | and proposing
 9 to sell | their small house | to the first bidder,
 10 in order to share the amount of it. | Tai asked to be
 11 the purchaser. | 'The house | and field | having been valued,
 12 he paid with his gold, | the share that came | to each of
 13 his brothers, | wished them | every prosperity,
 14 embraced them | tenderly, | and remained alone | in the
 15 paternal house. | —It was then | that he set about
 16 the execution | of a project | which had been a long time
 17 the object | of his thoughts. | He was in love with
 18 the young Amina, | the daughter of a neighbouring farmer.
 19 Amina was | handsome and prudent. | She took care | of the
 20 of her father, | and asked of God | only two things ; [household
 21 the first, | that her father should live | long ; | the second,
 22 that she should become | Tai's wife. | Her wishes were
 23 granted. | Tai asked for her, | and obtained her hand.
 24 Amina's father | came to live | with his son-in-law,
 25 and taught him | the art of making the earth yield | all that
 26 it can give | to those | who cultivate it. | The
 27 field doubled in value ; | and as | Tai was industrious,
 28 and his wife saving, | each year | increased
 29 their income. | Almina had | many children.
 30 Children, | who ruin | the rich idle people | of cities,
 31 enrich | the husbandman. | At the end of twelve years,
 32 Tai, | the father of ten pretty children, | the husband of a wife
 33 good and virtuous, | master of | several slaves,
 34 and possessor | of two flocks, | was the most happy
 35 farmer | of his province. | However | his three brothers
 36 were running after | Bathmendi. | Bekir had arrived [vizier,
 37 at the camp | of the Persians. | He presented himself | to the great
 38 and asked to serve | in the corps | that was the most exposed.
 39 His appearance, | and willingness, | pleased the vizier,
 40 who admitted him | into a regiment | of cavalry.
 41 A few days after, | a bloody battle | was fought.
 42 Bekir performed wonders, | saved the life | of his general,

1 et prit | de sa main | le commandant ennemi.
 2 Les louanges de Békir | retentirent | partout, | et le
 3 vizir reconnaissant | éleva son libérateur | au grade
 4 d'officier général. | Alzim avait raison, | disait
 5 Békir ; | c'est ici | que la fortune | m'attendait ;
 6 tout annonce | que je vais trouver | Bathmendi.
 7 La gloire de Bekir, | et surtout | son élévation, | excitèrent
 8 l'envie | et les murmures | de tous les satrapes. | Békir
 9 malheureux | par ses succès mêmes, | vivait seul, | toujours
 10 sur ses gardes, | et exposé | à tous moments | à recevoir
 11 quelque outrage. | Il regrettait | le temps | où il
 12 n'était que | simple soldat, | et il attendait | avec
 13 impatience | la fin de la guerre, | quand les Turcs
 14 renforcés | par de nouvelles troupes | et guidés | par un
 15 nouveau général, | vinrent attaquer | la division que
 16 Békir commandait. | —C'était | une occasion | que les
 17 satrapes de l'armée | attendaient depuis long-temps.
 18 Ils employèrent | cent fois | plus d'adresse
 19 à faire battre leur chef, | qu'ils n'en avaient montré
 20 dans toute leur vie | pour n'être pas battus | eux-mêmes.
 21 Le brave Bekir, | abandonné, | couvert de blessures,
 22 accablé sous le nombre, | fut pris, | par les janissaires,
 23 et envoyé | à Constantinople, | où il fut jeté | dans
 24 un cachot. | Hélas ! s'écriait-il, | dans sa prison,
 25 je commence à penser | qu' Alzim | m'a trompé,
 26 car je ne puis pas espérer | de rencontrer ici Bathmendi.
 27 —La guerre | dura quinze ans, | et les satrapes
 28 empêchèrent toujours | l'échange de Békir.
 29 La prison ne fut ouverte | qu' à la paix. | Il courut
 30 aussitôt | à Ispahan | chercher le vizir | son protecteur,
 31 à qui il avait sauvé la vie. | Trois semaines s'écoulèrent
 32 avant qu'il pût lui parler. Au bout de ce temps,
 33 il obtint | une audience. | Quinze ans de prison,
 34 changent un peu | la figure | d'un beau jeune homme.
 35 La souffrance | avait beaucoup altéré | les traits de Békir ;
 36 aussi le vizir | ne le reconnaissait pas. | Cependant | à force
 37 de se rappeler | les différentes époques | de sa glorieuse
 38 vie, | il se souvint | que Békir | lui avait autrefois rendu
 39 un petit service. | —Oui, oui, mon ami, | lui dit-il,
 40 je vous remets ; | vous êtes un brave homme ; | mais l'état
 41 est bien obéré ; | une longue guerre | et de grandes fêtes
 42 ont épuisé | nos finances ; | cependant | revenez me voir ;

1 and took | with his own hand | the commander of the enemy.
 2 The praises of Bekir | resounded | every where, | and the
 3 vizier, grateful, | raised his deliverer | to the grade
 4 of general officer. | Alzim was right, | said
 5 Bekir ; | it is here | that fortune | awaited me,
 6 every thing shows | that I am going to find | Bathmendi.
 7 —The glory of Bekir, | and especially | his elevation, | excited
 8 the envy | and the murmurs | of all the Satraps. | Bekir
 9 unhappy | by his very success, | lived alone, | always
 10 on his guard, | and exposed | every moment | to receive
 11 some affront. | He regretted | the time | when he
 12 was only | a common soldier, | and he was waiting | with
 13 impatience | for the end of the war, | when the Turks,
 14 reinforced | by fresh troops, | and guided | by a
 15 new general, | came to attack | the division which
 16 Bekir commanded. | —It was | an occasion | which the
 17 satraps of the army | had long been waiting for.
 18 They employed | a hundred times | more skill,
 19 to get their commander beaten, | than they had shown
 20 in all their lives | to avoid being beaten | themselves.
 21 The brave Bekir, | forsaken, | covered with wounds,
 22 overpowered by numbers, | was taken | by the janissaries,
 23 and sent | to Constantinople, | where he was thrown | into
 24 a dungeon. | Alas ! exclaimed he, | in his prison,
 25 I begin to think | that Alzim | has deceived me,
 26 for I cannot hope | to meet Bathmendi here.
 27 —The war | lasted fifteen years, | and the satraps
 28 always prevented | the exchange of Bekir.
 29 His prison was not opened | until peace was made. | He ran
 30 immediately | to Isaphan, | to seek the vizier, | his protector,
 31 whose life he had saved. | Three weeks elapsed
 32 before he could speak to him. | At the end of that time,
 33 he obtained | an audience. | Fifteen years imprisonment
 34 alter considerably | the appearance | of a handsome young man.
 35 Sufferings | had much altered | Bekir's features ;
 36 so the vizier | did not recognize him. | However, | by dint
 37 of calling to mind | the various epochs | of his glorious
 38 life ; | he recollected | that Bekir | had formerly done him
 39 a little service. | —Yes, yes, my friend, | said he to him ;
 40 I remember you ; | you are a brave man : | but the state
 41 is encumbered ; | a long war | and great festivals
 42 have exhausted | our finances. | However | call upon me again:

1 je tâcherai, | je verrai. . . | Eh ! Monseigneur, | j'en n'ai pas
 2 de pain ; | depuis quinze jours | j'attends
 3 le moment favorable | de parler à votre grandeur, et
 4 je serais mort | de misère | sans un soldat | de la garde,
 5 mon ancien camarade, | qui a partagé sa paie | avec moi.
 6 C'est fort bien | à ce soldat, | répondit le vizir ; | cela
 7 est vraiment | noble et touchant ; | j'en parlerai | au roi.
 8 Revenez me voir ; | vous savez que | je vous aime. . .
 9 En disant ces mots, | il lui tourna le dos. | Békir
 10 revint le lendemain, | mais il trouva | la porte fermée.
 11 Accablé de désespoir, | il sortit du palais | et de la ville,
 12 résolu | de n'y jamais rentrer. | — Il se jeta au pied
 13 d'un arbre | sur le bord | d'une rivière. | Là il réfléchit
 14 à l'ingratitude | des vizirs, | à tous les malheurs | qu'il
 15 avait éprouvés, | à ceux qui | le menaçaient encore ;
 16 et ne pouvant plus | supporter | ces tristes idées, | il se leva
 17 pour se précipiter | dans le fleuve : | mais il se sentit
 18 embrasser | par un mendiant | qui baignait | son visage
 19 de pleurs, | et s'écriait | en sanglotant : | C'est mon frère,
 20 c'est Békir ! — Békir regarde | et reconnaît Mesrou. —
 21 Tout homme | a du plaisir, | sans doute, | à retrouver
 22 un frère | qu'il n'a pas vu | depuis long-temps ; | mais
 23 un malheureux | sans ressource, | sans amis,
 24 qui va | finir ses jours | de désespoir,
 25 croit voir | un ange du ciel,
 26 en retrouvant | un frère qu'il aime. | Ce fut le
 27 sentiment | que Békir | et Mesrou | éprouvèrent à la fois.
 28 Ils se pressent mutuellement | dans leurs bras,
 29 ils confondent | leurs larmes, | et après | les premiers
 30 moments | donnés à la tendresse, | ils se regardent
 31 avec des yeux | surpris et affligés. | Tu es donc aussi
 32 malheureux ? | s'écria Békir. | Voici, | répondit Mesrou,
 33 le premier moment | de bonheur | dont j'ai joui
 34 depuis que | nous nous sommes quittés. | À ces mots
 35 les deux infortunés | s'embrassent encore ;
 36 ils s'appuient | l'un sur l'autre ; | et Mesrou assis
 37 près de Békir | commença ainsi | son histoire. —
 38 Tu te souviens | du jour fatal | où nous allâmes
 39 chez Alzim. | Ce perfide génie | me dit que
 40 je pourrais trouver | à la cour | ce Bathmendi | que
 41 nous désirions tant | de rencontrer. | Je suivis son
 42 funeste conseil, | et j'arrivai bientôt | à Isaphan.

1 I will try, | I will see. . . . | Ah! my lord, | I have no
 2 bread; | for a fortnight. | I have been waiting for
 3 an opportunity | of speaking | to your lordship, and
 4 I should have perished | with misery, | but for a soldier | of the
 5 my ancient comrade, | who shared his pay | with me. [guard,
 6 That is very well | of that soldier, | replied the vizier; | it
 7 is truly | noble and affecting; | I will mention it | to the king.
 8 Call upon me again; | you know that | I love you. . . .
 9 Saying these words, | he turned his back upon him. | Bekir
 10 called again the next day, | but he found | the door shut.
 11 Overwhelmed with despair, | he left the palace | and the city,
 12 determined | never to enter it again. |—He threw himself at the
 13 of a tree | on the bank | of a river. | There he reflected [foot
 14 on the ingratitude | of viziers, | on all the misfortunes which he
 15 had experienced, | on those which | still threatened him;
 16 and unable any longer | to bear | those melancholy ideas, | he
 17 to throw himself | into the river: | but he felt himself [rose
 18 embraced | by a beggar, | who bathed | his face
 19 with tears, | and exclaimed, | sobbing: | It is my brother,
 20 it is Bekir!—Bekir looks | and recognizes Mesrou.—
 21 Every man | feels pleasure, | no doubt, | in meeting again with
 22 a brother, | whom he has not seen | for a long time; | but
 23 an unfortunate man | without resource, | without friends,
 24 who is going | to put an end to his existence, | in despair,
 25 thinks he sees | an angel from heaven,
 26 in finding again | a beloved brother. | Such was the
 27 sentiment | which Bekir | and Mesrou | experienced | at the
 28 They mutually press each other | in their arms, [same time.
 29 they mingle | their tears, | and after | the first
 30 moments | given to tenderness, | they look at each other
 31 with eyes | full of surprise and affection. | Art thou then also
 32 unfortunate? | exclaimed Bekir. | This is, | answered Mesrou,
 33 the first moment | of happiness | which I have enjoyed
 34 since | we parted. | At these words
 35 the two unfortunate men | embrace each other;
 36 they lean | on each other; | and Mesrou, seated
 37 near Bekir, | thus began | his history.—
 38 You remember | the fatal day | when we went
 39 to Alzim's. | That perfidious genius | told me that
 40 I might find | at court | that Bathmendi, | whom
 41 we so much wished | to meet. | I followed his
 42 pernicious advice, | and soon arrived | at Ispahan.

1 Je fis connaissance | avec une jeune esclave | qui
 2 appartenait | à la femme | du premier secrétaire [moi,
 3 du grand vizir. | Cette esclave | conçut de l'affection | pour
 4 et m'introduisit | auprès de sa maîtresse, | qui me fit passer
 5 pour son frère. | Bientôt le frère | fut présenté | au vizir,
 6 et quelques jours après | il obtint un emploi | dans le palais.
 7 La sultane | me distingua | et me prit | dans une amitié intime.
 8 Dès ce moment | les honneurs | et les richesses | commencèrent
 9 à pleuvoir | sur moi. | Le monarque | lui-même | me témoigna
 10 de l'affection. | Il aimait à causer | avec moi, | parce que
 11 je le flattais | avec adresse, | et que | je lui conseillais toujours
 12 ce qu'il avait envie | de faire. | C'était le moyen
 13 de lui faire faire bientôt | ce que je voudrais. | Cela
 14 ne manqua pas | d'arriver. | Au bout | de trois ans,
 15 je me vis | à la fois | premier ministre, | favori du roi,
 16 maître de nommer | et de déplacer | les vizirs, | décidant
 17 tout | par mon crédit, | et recevant | tous les matins
 18 les grands de l'empire, | qui venaient attendre
 19 mon réveil | pour obtenir | de moi | un sourire
 20 de protection. —Au milieu de | ma gloire | et de ma
 21 fortune, | je m'étonnais | de ne pas rencontrer | Bathmendi,
 22 que je cherchais. | Rien ne me manque, | me disais-je ;
 23 pourquoi | Bathmendi me manque-t-il ? | Cette idée
 24 et la gêne | où je passais | ma vie, | empoisonnèrent
 25 tous mes plaisirs. | L'amour du roi | pour une jeune
 26 Mingrélienne | vint combler | mon infortune. | Toute
 27 la cour | tourna les yeux | de ce côté, | dans l'espoir que
 28 la jeune beauté | chasserait le ministre. | Je parai
 29 le coup, | en me liant avec elle, | et en flattant
 30 l'amour du roi. | Bientôt le monarque étant
 31 décidé à épouser | cette demoiselle, | me demanda mon avis.
 32 Je tergiversai | quelques jours. | La Sultane mère
 33 qui craignait | de perdre son crédit, | si son fils se mariait,
 34 me dit | que si | je ne rompais pas | ce mariage
 35 elle me ferait assassiner | le jour même | de la
 36 cérémonie. | Une heure après, | la Mingrélienne
 37 vint m'assurer | que si | je ne la faisais pas épouser
 38 par le roi | le lendemain, | je serais étranglé | le jour
 39 d'après. | Ma position | était embarrassante. | Il fallait
 40 choisir | du poignard, | du cordon | ou de la fuite.
 41 Je résolus de fuir. | Je me suis déguisé | comme tu vois,
 42 et me suis échappé | du palais | avec quelques diamants

1 I became acquainted | with a young slave, | who
 2 belonged | to the wife | of the first secretary [for me,
 3 to the grand vizier. | That slave | conceived an affection
 4 and introduced me | to her mistress, | who made me pass
 5 for her brother. | Soon the brother | was presented | to the vizier,
 6 and a few days after | he obtained an office | in the palace.
 7 The Sultana | distinguished me | and took me | into an intimate
 8 From that moment | honor and riches | began [friendship.
 9 to shower | upon me. | The monarch | himself | showed me
 10 some affection. | He liked to converse | with me, | because
 11 I flattered him | with address, | and | always advised him
 12 that which he had a mind | to do.. | This was the means
 13 to make him soon do | what I should wish. | That
 14 did not fail | to happen. | At the end | of three years,
 15 I saw myself | at once | prime minister, | favorite of the king,
 16 having in my power to appoint | and remove | viziers, | deciding
 17 every thing | by my influence, | and receiving | every morning
 18 the great men of the empire, | who came to wait
 19 till I awoke, | to obtain | from me | a smile
 20 of protection. |—In the midst of | my glory, | and of my
 21 fortune, | I was astonished | not to meet | Bathmendi,
 22 whom I was seeking. | I feel no want of any thing, | said I to
 23 why | do I still want Bathmendi ? | This idea [myself;
 24 and the constraint | in which I spent | my life, | poisoned
 25 all my pleasures: | The love of the king | for a young
 26 Mingrelian girl | came to fill up | my misfortune. | The whole
 27 court | turned their eyes | to that side, | in the hope that
 28 the young beauty | would turn out the minister. | I parried
 29 the blow, | in connecting myself with her, | and flattering the
 30 passion of the king. | Soon the monarch being
 31 determined to marry | that young lady, | asked my advice.
 32 I hesitated | for some days. | The Sultana's mother,
 33 who was afraid | of losing her influence | if her son should
 34 told me | that if | I did not break off | that match [marry,
 35 she would have me assassinated | the very day | of the
 36 ceremony. | One hour after, | the Mingrelian girl
 37 came to assure me | that if | I did not get her married
 38 to the king | the next day, | I should be strangled | the day
 39 after. | My situation | was embarrassing. | I had
 40 to chose | between the dagger, | the rope, | or flight.
 41 I resolved to fly. | I have disguised myself | as you see,
 42 and have escaped | from the palace | with some diamonds

1 dans mes poches, | qui me feront vivre | avec toi | dans
 2 quelque coin | de l'Indostan, | loin des Sultanes,
 3 des Mingreliennes | et de la cour. | Après ce récit, | Békir
 4 raconta ses aventures | à Mesrou. | Ils convinrent
 5 qu'ils auraient fait | tout aussi bien
 6 de ne pas courir | le monde, | comme ils avaient fait,
 7 et que | la meilleure chose | qu'ils pussent faire | était
 8 de retourner | dans le Kousistan, | auprès de leur frère
 9 Taï, | où les diamants | de Mesrou | les mettraient en état
 10 de mener une vie | douce et aisée. | Après cette
 11 résolution, | il se mirent en route | et marchèrent
 12 plusieurs jours | sans aventure. | Comme ils
 13 traversaient | la province de F. . ., | ils arrivèrent
 14 vers le soir | à un petit village | où ils comptaient
 15 passer la nuit. | C'était | un jour de fête. | En entrant
 16 dans le village, | ils virent | plusieurs enfants de paysans
 17 conduits | par une espèce | de magister | mal vêtu,
 18 marchant | la tête basse | et ayant l'air | de rêver
 19 tristement. | Les deux frères | s'approchent de
 20 ce magister, | le regardent | attentivement. . . . | Quelle
 21 est leur surprise ! | C'est Sadder, | c'est leur frère
 22 qu'ils embrassent. | Eh ! quoi ! — mon ami, | lui dit Békir,
 23 est-ce ainsi | qu'on récompense la sagesse ? | Tu vois,
 24 répondit Sadder, | qu'on le traite | un peu près
 25 comme la valeur ; | mais la philosophie | doit nous offrir
 26 des consolations. | En disant ces mots, | il ordonna à tous
 27 les enfants | d'aller chez eux, | conduisit Békir | et
 28 Mesrou | à sa petite cabane, | apprêta | lui-même | un peu de
 29 riz | pour leur souper, | et après avoir | entendu le récit
 30 de leurs aventures, | il leur raconta ainsi | son histoire. —
 31 Le génie Alzim, | que je soupçonne | beaucoup | d'aimer
 32 le mal d'autrui, | me conseilla | de chercher | cet
 33 introuvable Bathmendi | dans la grande ville | d'Agra,
 34 parmi les beaux esprits | et les belles dames | de cette ville.
 35 J'arrivai | à Agra, | et avant de me répandre | dans le monde
 36 je voulus | me faire connaître | par quelque ouvrage d'éclat.
 37 Au bout d'un mois | mon ouvrage parut ; | c'était un
 38 cours complet | de toutes | les sciences humaines, | en un
 39 petit volume | divisé | par chapitres. | Chaque chapitre
 40 était un conte, | et chaque conte | enseignait | une science.
 41 Mon livre | et moi | nous devinmes bientôt | à la mode.
 42 On m'invita | dans toutes les sociétés | qui se piquaient

1 in my pockets, | which will support me | with you | in
 2 some corner | of Hindostan, | far from the Sultanas,
 3 Mingrelian girls, | and the court. | After this recital, | Bekir
 4 related his adventures | to Mesrou. | They agreed
 5 that they would have done | just as well
 6 not to have rambled | about the world, | as they had done,
 7 and that the best thing | that they could do | was
 8 to return | into Kousistan, | to their brother
 9 Tai, | where the diamonds | of Mesrou | would enable them
 10 to lead a life | sweet and easy. | After this
 11 resolution, | they set out on their journey, | and travelled
 12 several days | without meeting with any adventure. | As they
 13 were crossing | the province of F. . . , | they arrived
 14 towards dusk | at a small village, | where they intended
 15 to spend the night. | It was a holy day. | On entering
 16 the village, | they saw | several peasants' children,
 17 attended | by a kind | of school-master | badly clad,
 18 walking | with his head down, | and seeming | to be absorbed
 19 in melancholy thoughts. | The two brothers | approach
 20 this school-master, | look at him | attentively . . . | What
 21 is their surprise ! | It is Sadder, | it is their brother,
 22 whom they embrace. | What ! | my friend, | said Bekir,
 23 is it thus | that genius is rewarded ? | You see,
 24 replied Sadder, | that it is treated | much in the same way
 25 as valour is ; | but philosophy | must offer us
 26 consolations. | Saying these words, | he ordered all
 27 the children | to go home, | conducted Bekir | and
 28 Mesrou | to his little cottage, | dressed | himself | a little
 29 rice | for their supper, | and after having | heard the recital
 30 of their adventures, | he thus related to them | his history :—
 31 The genius Alzim, | whom I suspect | much | to be fond of
 32 other people's affliction, | advised me | to seek | that
 33 not-to-be-found Bathmendi | in the large town | of Agra,
 34 amongst the wits, | and the fine ladies | of that city.
 35 I arrived at Agra, | and before I mixed | with the world
 36 I wished | to make myself known | by some striking work.
 37 At the end of a month | my work appeared ; | it was a
 38 complete course | of all | human sciences, | in a
 39 little volume | divided | into chapters. | Each chapter
 40 was a tale, | and each tale | taught | a science,
 41 My book | and myself | soon became | fashionable.
 42 I was invited | to all the societies | that pretended

1 d'avoir un peu d'esprit ; | on ne parlait que de moi,
 2 et la Sultane | m'écrivit | de sa main | un billet
 3 sans orthographe, | pour me prier | de venir à la cour.—
 4 Courage ! me disais-je : | Alzim ne m'a pas trompé ;
 5 ma gloire | est au comble : | je la soutiendrai | par
 6 des moyens plus sûrs | que ceux | de l'intrigue ; | je plair
 7 et je trouverai | Bathmendi. | Je fus parfaitement
 8 accueilli | dans le palais | du grand Mogol : | la
 9 Sultane | se déclara ouvertement | ma protectrice,
 10 me présenta | à l'empereur, | me commanda des vers,
 11 me donna | des pensions, | m'admit | à ses petits souper
 12 et me jura | cent fois | une amitié éternelle.
 13 Je croyais être | sur le point | de rencontrer Bathmendi,
 14 quand ma protectrice | se brouilla | avec le vizir,
 15 parce que ce ministre | refusa de donner | le
 16 gouvernement d'une province | au fils | du confiseur
 17 de la Sultane. | La Sultane outrée | de cette audace,
 18 pria l'empereur | de chasser | l'insolent ministre ;
 19 mais l'empereur | aimait son vizir | et refusa de le renvoy
 20 Alors | il fallut | établir | une intrigue régulière
 21 pour perdre | le vizir soutenu. | Je fus ~~de complot~~, | et
 22 je regus ordre | de composer | une satire sanglante | con
 23 le ministre, | et de la répandre | dans le public. | Le
 24 vizir | sut bientôt | que j'en étais l'auteur. | Il alla
 25 trouver la Sultane, | lui porta | le brevet | qu'il avait
 26 d'abord refusé, | une ordonnance | de cent mille
 27 dariques | sur le trésor royal, | et ne lui demanda
 28 pour récompense | que de lui permettre | de me jeter
 29 dans un cachot. | C'est une misère, | répondit la
 30 Sultane, | et je suis très-heureuse | de pouvoir faire
 31 quelque chose | qui vous soit agréable. | Je vais
 32 envoyer chercher tout-à-l'heure | ce misérable
 33 qui a osé | vous insulter | malgré mes défenses expresse
 34 et le remettre | entre vos mains. | Heureusement
 35 pour moi | un esclave | de la Sultane, | qui était présent
 36 vint | me raconter leur conversation ; | Je n'eus que
 37 le temps de me sauver, | Depuis ce temps | j'ai
 38 parcouru tout l'Indostan, | gagnant à peine
 39 ma vie | à écrire des romans, | et à faire des vers.
 40 Tant que j'avais eu | de l'argent, | mes ouvrages
 41 avaient été des chefs-d'œuvre ; | si tôt que je fus
 42 dans la misère, | je ne fis que des sottises. | Enfin,

1 to have any sense ; | there was no talk but of me,
 2 and the Sultana | wrote to me | with her own hand | a note,
 3 badly spelled, | to ask me | to come to court.—
 4 Well ! said I to myself : | Alzim has not deceived me ;
 5 my glory | is at its height ; | I will sustain it | by
 6 surer means | than those | of intrigue ; | I will please,
 7 and I shall find | Bathmendi. | I was perfectly
 8 received | in the palace | of the grand Mogul : | the
 9 Sultana | declared herself openly | my protectress,
 10 presented me | to the emperor, | bespoke verses from me,
 11 gave me | pensions, | admitted me | to her private suppers,
 12 and swore to me | a hundred times | an eternal friendship.
 13 I thought I was | on the point | of meeting Bathmendi,
 14 when my protectress | fell out | with the vizier,
 15 because that minister | refused to give | the
 16 government of a province | to the son | of the confectioner
 17 of the Sultana. | The Sultana exasperated | at this audacity,
 18 begged the emperor | to dismiss | the insolent minister ;
 19 but the emperor | liked his vizier, | and refused to dismiss him.
 20 Then | it became necessary | to establish | a regular intrigue
 21 to ruin | the patronized vizier. | I entered into the plot, | and
 22 I received order | to compose | a cutting satire | against
 23 the minister, | and to spread it | among the public. |—The
 24 vizier | soon knew | that I was the author of it. | He went
 25 to the Sultana, | brought her | the commission | which he had
 26 at first refused, | an order for | a hundred thousand
 27 daricks | on the royal treasury, | and asked her
 28 in return | only to permit him | to throw me
 29 into a dungeon. | That is a trifle, | answered the
 30 Sultana, | and I am very happy | to be able to do
 31 something | that may be acceptable to you. | I am going
 32 immediately to send for | that wretch
 33 who has dared | to insult you | in spite of my express orders,
 34 and deliver him | into your hands. | Luckily
 35 for me, | a slave | of the Sultana, | who was present,
 36 came | to relate their conversation to me ; | I had only
 37 time to escape. | Since that time | I have
 38 wandered all over Hindostan, | hardly gaining
 39 my livelihood | by writing novels, | and making verses.
 40 Whilst I had | money, | my works
 41 had been master-pieces ; | as soon as I was
 42 in misery, | all that I wrote was nonsense. | At last,

1 dégoûté d'instruire | l'univers, | j'ai mieux aimé
 2 montrer à lire à des paysans, | et je me suis fait
 3 maître d'école | dans ce petit village | où je vis
 4 de pain bis, | et où je n'espère pas | voir Bathmendi.
 5 —Il ne tient qu'à toi, | lui dit Mesrou, | de le quitter
 6 et de retourner avec nous | dans le Kousistan, | où
 7 quelques diamants | que j'emporte, | nous assurent
 8 une vie douce et tranquille. | Il n'eut pas grand'peine
 9 à déterminer Sadder. | Dès le lendemain | les trois
 10 frères | sortirent du village | avant le jour | et prirent
 11 la route du Kousistan. | —Ils en étaient | à leur
 12 dernière journée, | et à peu de distance | de la petite
 13 maison de Taï. | Cette idée les consolait ; | mais leur
 14 espoir | était mêlé | de crainte. | Trouverons-nous
 15 notre frère ? | disaient-ils : | nous l'avons laissé
 16 bien pauvre ; | il n'aura pas rencontré | Bathmendi,
 17 puis qu'il n'a pas pu | le chercher. | Mes chers
 18 amis, | leur dit Sadder, | j'ai beaucoup réfléchi
 19 à ce Bathmendi | dont Alzim | nous a parlé.
 20 Franchement, | je crois | que le génie | s'est moqué de nous
 21 Bathmendi n'existe pas ; | car | puisque mon frère
 22 Békir ne l'a pas rencontré | quand il commandait
 23 la moitié | de l'armée persanne ; | puisque Mesrou
 24 n'en a pas entendu parler | lorsqu'il était | le favori
 25 du grand roi ; | puisque moi-même | je n'ai pu
 26 le trouver | dans le temps | que j'étais comblé
 27 des faveurs | de la gloire | et de la fortune ; | il est
 28 clair | que Bathmendi | est un être imaginaire,
 29 une illusion, | une chimère, | après laquelle | tous les
 30 hommes courent, | parce qu'ils aiment | les chimères,
 31 parce qu'ils aiment à courir. | —Il allait prouver
 32 que Bathmendi | n'habitait pas | dans ce monde
 33 lorsqu'une troupe | de voleurs | sort de derrière
 34 les rochers | qui bordaient | la route, | entoure
 35 les voyageurs, | et leur ordonne | de se dépouiller.
 36 Békir voulut résister ; | mais il fut bientôt désarmé.
 37 Après cette cérémonie | qui fut l'affaire | d'un
 38 moment, | le chef des voleurs | leur souhaita | un bon
 39 voyage, | et les laissa | tout nus | au milieu du
 40 grand chemin. | —Ceci vient | à l'appui de | ma
 41 proposition, | dit Sadder, | en regardant ses frères.
 42 Ah ! les lâches ! | s'écria Békir | en fureur ; | ils

1 disgusted with instructing | the world, | I preferred
 2 to teach peasants reading, | and I have turned
 3 school-master | in this little village | where I live
 4 upon brown bread, | and where I do not expect | to see Bath-
 5 It depends on you, | said Mesrou to him, | to leave it, [mendi.
 6 and to return with us | to Kousistan, | where
 7 some diamonds | which I take with me | assure us
 8 a sweet and quiet life. | He had not much difficulty
 9 to determine Sadder. | The very next day | the three
 10 brothers | went out of the village | before day-break | and took
 11 the road to Kousistan. |—They were | on their
 12 last day's journey, | and at no great distance | from the small
 13 house of Tai. | This idea consoled them; | but their
 14 hope | was mingled | with fear. | Shall we find
 15 our brother ? | said they : | we left him
 16 very poor ; | he will not have met | Bathmendi,
 17 since he has not been able | to seek him. | My dear
 18 friends, | said Sadder to them, | I have much reflected
 19 on this Bathmendi, | of whom Alzim | spoke to us.
 20 Frankly, | I believe | that the genius | has made game of us.
 21 Bathmendi does not exist ; | for, | since my brother
 22 Bekir did not meet him | when he commanded
 23 half | the Persian army ; | since Mesrou
 24 did not hear his name mentioned | when he was | the favorite
 25 of the great King ; | since I myself | was not able
 26 to find him | at the time | when I was loaded
 27 with the favours | of glory | and fortune ; | it is
 28 obvious | that Bathmendi | is an imaginary being.
 29 an illusion, | a chimera, | after which | all
 30 men run, | because they like | chimeras,
 31 because they like rambling about. | He was going to prove
 32 that Bathmendi | did not exist | in this world,
 33 when a band | of robbers | rush from behind
 34 the rocks | which lined | the road, | surround
 35 the travellers, | and order them | to strip.
 36 Bekir wished to resist, | but he was soon disarmed.
 37 After this ceremony, | which was the business | of a
 38 moment, | the chief of the robbers | wished them | a good
 39 journey, | and left them | quite naked | in the midst of the
 40 highway. |—This comes | in support of | my
 41 proposition, | said Sadder, | looking at his brothers.
 42 Ah ! the cowards ! | exclaimed Bekir | in a rage ; | they

1 m'ont arraché mon épée ! | Mes diamants ! | mes pauvres
 2 diamants, | dit Mesrou | en pleurant. — Il faisait nuit ;
 3 les trois infortunés | se hâtèrent | de gagner | la
 4 maison | de leur frère Taï. | Ils y arrivèrent enfin,
 5 et la vue | de cette maison | fit couler leurs larmes.
 6 Ils s'arrêtèrent | à la porte ; | ils n'osèrent frapper ;
 7 toutes leurs craintes, | toutes leurs incertitudes | recommencèrent.
 8 Tandis qu'ils balançaient ainsi, | Békir roule | une grosse
 9 grosse pierre, | monte dessus, | et trouvant | une fente
 10 dans le contrevent | de la fenêtre, | il regarde | et aperçoit
 11 dans une chambre | propre | et simplement meublée,
 12 son frère Taï | à table, | au milieu de dix enfants
 13 qui mangeaient, | riaient | et babillaient | tous à la fois.
 14 Taï avait à sa droite | sa femme, | qui faisait manger
 15 son dernier enfant ; | et à sa gauche | était un petit vieillard
 16 d'une physionomie douce et gaie, | qui versait
 17 à boire à Taï. | A ce spectacle | Békir se précipite
 18 dans les bras | de ses frères, | et frappe | à la porte
 19 de toutes ses forces. | Un valet | vient l'ouvrir, | et
 20 jette des cris de frayeur, | en voyant | trois hommes
 21 tout nus. | Taï court | à la porte. | Les trois
 22 étrangers | lui sautent au cou ; | ils l'appellent
 23 leur frère ; | ils le baignent | de larmes. | Il est
 24 troublé d'abord, | mais | il reconnaît bientôt | Békir,
 25 Mesrou, | Sadder. | Il les presse | dans ses bras,
 26 il ne peut | les embrasser assez, | Tous les enfants
 27 accourent pour voir | ce qu'il y avait. | Amine vint aussi,
 28 mais elle se retira | avec ses filles | à l'aspect des
 29 trois frères nus. | Il n'y eut que | le petit vieillard
 30 qui ne quitta pas | la table. | — Taï donna | des habits
 31 à ses frères, | les présenta | à sa femme, | et leur fit
 32 baiser ses enfants. | Hélas ! dit Békir | attendri
 33 à ce spectacle ; | ton heureux sort | nous console | de tout
 34 ce que nous avons souffert. | Depuis l'instant de
 35 notre séparation, | notre vie | n'a été qu'un | enchaînement
 36 d'infortunes, | et nous n'avons pas | seulement
 37 entrevu | ce Bathmendi | après lequel | nous avons
 38 tous couru. | Je le crois bien, | dit alors, | le petit
 39 vieillard | qui demeurerait | toujours | à table ;
 40 je n'ai pas | bougé d'ici. | Comment ! s'écria
 41 Mesrou, | vous êtes. . . | Je suis Bathmendi,
 42 reprit le vieillard. | Il est tout simple | que vous

1 have taken my sword from me ! | My diamonds ! | My poor
 2 diamonds, | said Mesrou | weeping.—It was dark ;
 3 the three unfortunate men | hastened | to reach | the
 4 house | of their brother Taï. | They at length reached it,
 5 and the sight | of that house | made their tears flow.
 6 They stopped | at the door, | they dared not knock ;
 7 all their fears, | all their doubts | were renewed.
 8 Whilst they were thus wavering, | Bekir rolls | a
 9 large stone, | gets upon it, | and finding | a cleft
 10 in the shutter | of the window, | he looks | and perceives
 11 in a room, | neat | and plainly furnished,
 12 his brother Taï | at table, | in the midst of ten children,
 13 who were eating, | laughing | and chattering | all at once.
 14 Taï had on his right | his wife, | who was feeding
 15 her youngest child ; | and on his left | was a little old man
 16 of a sweet and cheerful countenance, | who was pouring out
 17 drink for Taï. | At this sight | Bekir rushes
 18 into the arms | of his brothers, | and knocks | at the door
 19 with all his might. | A servant | comes to open it, | and
 20 screams with fright, | at seeing | three men
 21 quite naked. | Taï runs | to the door. | The three
 22 strangers | fall on his neck ; | they call him
 23 their brother ; | they bathe him | with tears. | He is
 24 confused at first, | but | he soon recognizes | Bekir,
 25 Mesrou, | Sadder. | He presses them | in his arms,
 26 he cannot | embrace them enough. | All the children
 27 run to see | what it was. | Amina came also,
 28 but she withdrew | with her daughters | at the sight of the
 29 three naked brothers. | There was only | the little old man
 30 who did not quit | the table. —Taï gave | clothes
 31 to his brothers, | presented them | to his wife, | and made them
 32 kiss his children. | Alas ! said Bekir, | affected
 33 at this sight ; | thy happy lot | consoles us | for all
 34 that we have suffered. | Since the moment | of
 35 our separation, | our life | has been only | a series
 36 of misfortunes, | and we have not | even
 37 had a glimpse of | that Bathmendi | after whom | we have
 38 all been running. | I readily believe it, | said then | the little
 39 old man | who remained | all this time | at table ;
 40 I have not | stirred hence. | How ! exclaimed
 41 Mesrou, | you are. . . . | I am Bathmendi,
 42 replied the old man. | It is natural | that you

1 ne me connaissiez pas, | puisque | vous ne m'avez jamais vu
 2 mais | demandez à Tai, | demandez à la bonne Amine
 3 et à tous | ces petits enfants ; | il n'y en a pas un | qui
 4 ne sache mon nom. | Les trois frères | qui ne pouvaient
 5 se lasser de considérer | ce petit vieillard, | voulurent
 6 l'embrasser. | Doucement, | leur dit-il, | je n'aime pas
 7 ces grands mouvements. | Il faut être amis | avant de
 8 se caresser. | Si vous souhaitez | que nous le devenions,
 9 ne vous occupez pas trop de moi. | En disant ces mots
 10 il se leva, | baisa chacun des enfants, | fit un petit
 11 salut | au trois frères, | un sourire à Amine | et à Tai,
 12 et alla | les attendre | dans leur chambre à coucher.
 13 Tai se remit à table | avec ses frères | et
 14 leur fit apprêter des lits. | Le lendemain | il
 15 leur montra | ses champs, | ses troupeaux, | et leur fit
 16 un détail | de tous les plaisirs | dont il jouissait.
 17 Bekir prit la charrue | le jour même ; | aussi
 18 il fut le premier | qui devint l'ami | de
 19 Bathmendi. | Mesrou | qui avait été | premier
 20 ministre | fut premier berger | de la ferme,
 21 et le poète | se chargea | d'aller vendre | à la ville,
 22 le blé, | la laine, | et le lait | qu'on envoyait
 23 au marché ; | son éloquence | attirait les chalands,
 24 et il était | aussi utile | que les autres. | Au bout
 25 de six mois, | Bathmendi se plut avec eux, | et leurs
 26 jours nombreux et tranquilles | coulèrent doucement
 27 au sein du bonheur. | — Il est peut-être | inutile
 28 de dire | que BATHMENDI, | en persan
 29 signifie le BONHEUR.

30

RAPIDITE DE LA VIE.

31 Je suis Arcésius, | père de Laërte, | dit le vieillard :
 32 j'avais fini mes jours | avant que mon petit-fils
 33 Ulysse | partît | pour le siège | de Troie.
 34 Tu n'étais alors | qu'un enfant | entre les bras de ta
 35 nourrice ; | mais je congus | de toi de grandes espérances,
 36 et elles ne m'ont point trompé, | puisque je vois que
 37 tu es descendu | dans le royaume de Pluton | pour
 38 chercher ton père, | et que les dieux | te soutiennent
 39 dans cette entreprise. | O mon heureux enfant ! | Les
 40 dieux t'aiment, | et te préparent une gloire | qui
 41 égalera | celle de ton père. | Heureux moi-même

1 should not know me, | since | you have never seen me:
 2 but | ask Tāi, | ask the good Amina
 3 and all | these little children, | there is not one of them | but
 4 knows my name. | The three brothers | who could not
 5 keep their eyes off | that little old man, | wished
 6 to embrace him. | Gently, | said he to them, | I dislike
 7 these great raptures. | People must be friends | before
 8 they make so free. | If you wish | that we should become so,
 9 be not too much taken up with me. | Saying these words
 10 he got up, | kissed every one of the children, | made a gentle
 11 bow | to the three brothers, | gave a smile to Amina | and Tāi,
 12 and went | to wait for them | in their bed room.
 13 Tāi sat again at table | with his brothers, | and
 14 ordered beds to be got ready for them. | The next day | he
 15 showed them | his fields, | his flocks, | and made them
 16 a detail | of all the pleasures | which he enjoyed.
 17 Bekir took the plough | that very day ; | so
 18 he was the first | who became the friend | of
 19 Bathmendi. | Mesrou | who had been | the prime
 20 minister | was head shepherd | of the farm,
 21 and the poet | took upon himself | to go and sell | in town
 22 the corn, | the wool, | and the milk | which was sent
 23 to market ; | his eloquence | brought customers,
 24 and he was | as useful | as the others. | At the end
 25 of six months, | Bathmendi was pleased with them, | and their
 26 numerous and quiet days | glided on gently
 27 in the bosom of happiness. —It is perhaps | useless
 28 to say | that BATHMENDI, | in the Persian language,
 29 means HAPPINESS.

30

RAPIDITY OF LIFE.

31 I am Arcesius, | the father of Laertes, | said the old man :
 32 I had ended my days | before my grandson
 33 Ulysses | departed | for the siege | of Troy.
 34 Thou wast then | but an infant | in the arms of thy
 35 nurse ; | but I conceived | great hopes of thee,
 36 and they have not deceived me, | since I see that
 37 thou hast descended | into Pluto's kingdom | in
 38 search of thy father, | and that the gods | sustain thee
 39 in this attempt. | O my fortunate youth ! | The
 40 gods love thee, | and are preparing a glory for thee | which
 41 will equal | that of thy father. | Happy am I myself

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1 de te revoir ! | Cesse de chercher | Ulysse ici ;
 2 il est encore en vie ; | il est réservé | pour relever
 3 notre maison, | dans l'île d'Ithaque. | Laerte
 4 même, | quoique courbé | sous le poids | des ans,
 5 jouit encore de la lumière, | et attend | que son fils
 6 vienne | lui fermer les yeux. | Ainsi les mortels
 7 passent comme les fleurs, | qui s'épanouissent
 8 le matin, | et qui le soir | se flétrissent, | et sont
 9 foulées au pied. | Les générations des hommes
 10 s'écoulent | comme les ondes | d'une rivière rapide.
 11 Rien ne peut arrêter | le temps, | qui entraîne
 12 après lui | tout ce qui paraît | le plus immobile.
 13 Toi-même, | ô mon fils, | mon cher fils, | toi qui jouis
 14 maintenant | d'une jeunesse | si vive | et si féconde
 15 en plaisirs, | souviens-toi | que cette saison riante
 16 n'est qu'une fleur | qui se flétrit | presque
 17 aussitôt qu'elle est éclos. | Tu te verras changé
 18 insensiblement : | les grâces riantes, | les doux
 19 plaisirs | qui t'accompagnent, | la force | la santé,,
 20 la joie, | s'évanouiront | comme un beau songe ;
 21 il ne t'en restera | qu'un triste souvenir. | La vieillesse,
 22 cet enneemi du plaisir, | viendra rider
 23 ton front, | courber ton corps, | affaiblir tes membres,
 24 tarir la source | de la joie | dans ton cœur, | et
 25 te dégoûter | du présent, | te remplir de crainte
 26 pour l'avenir, | et te rendre insensible | à tout
 27 excepté à la douleur. | Ce temps | te paraît
 28 éloigné : | hélas ! tu te trompes, | mon fils ;
 29 il vient rapidement ; | que dis-je ? | il est déjà près :
 30 ce qui avance | avec tant de rapidité | n'est pas loin | de t
 31 et le présent | qui s'enfuit | est déjà bien loin,
 32 puisqu'il cesse d'être | dans le moment | que
 33 nous parlons, | et ne peut plus se rapprocher de nous.
 34 Ne compte donc jamais, | mon fils, | sur le présent ; | m
 35 soutiens-toi | dans le sentier rude et épineux | de
 36 la vertu | par la vue de l'avenir. | Tâche de mériter | pa
 37 la pureté de tes mœurs | et l'amour de la justice,
 38 une place | dans cet heureux séjour | de la paix.

1 to see thee again! | Cease to search | Ulysses here ;
 2 he is still alive ; | he is reserved | to be restorer of
 3 our house, | in the island of Ithaca. | Laertes
 4 himself, | though bent | under the weight | of years,
 5 still enjoys the light, | and expects | that his son
 6 shall return | to close his eyes. | Thus mortals
 7 pass away like flowers, | which bloom
 8 in the morning, | and which in the evening | wither | and are
 9 trodden under foot. | The generations of men
 10 roll away | as the waves | of a rapid river.
 11 Nothing can stop | Time, | which carries
 12 with him | all that seems | the most immoveable.
 13 Thyself, | O my son, my dear son, | thou who enjoyest
 14 now | a youth | so sprightly | and fecund
 15 in pleasures, | remember | that this gay season
 16 is but a flower | which fades | almost
 17 as soon as it is blown. | Thou wilt perceive thyself changed
 18 insensibly : | the smiling graces, | the sweet
 19 pleasures | which attend thee, | strength, | health,
 20 joy, | will vanish | like a pleasing dream ;
 21 nothing will remain | but a sad remembrance. | Old age,
 22 that enemy of pleasure, | will come and wrinkle
 23 thy forehead, | bend thy body, | weaken thy limbs,
 24 dry up the source | of joy | in thy heart, | and
 25 disgust thee | with the present, | fill thee with fear
 26 for the future, | and make thee insensible | to all
 27 except pain. | This time | appears to thee to be
 28 far distant : | alas! thou art mistaken, | my son :
 29 it comes rapidly ; | what do I say ? | it is near already ;
 30 what advances | with such rapidity | is not far | from thee,
 31 and the present | for ever flying | is remote already,
 32 since it ceases to be | in the moment | when
 33 we are speaking, | and can approach us no more.
 34 Never rely therefore, | my son, | on the present, | but
 35 support thyself | in the rugged and thorny path | of
 36 virtue | by viewing the future. | Endeavour to deserve | by
 37 purity of manners | and love of justice,
 38 a place | in this happy residence | of peace.

1 PHRASES CHOISIES.

- 2 Nous ~~tenons~~ tout | de Dieu ; | conséquemment il
 3 convient, | il est juste | que nous rapportions | à lui
 4 toutes nos actions. | — Henri Quatre | a dit que
 5 les louanges seraient | d'un très-grand avantage | si
 6 elles nous donnaient | les bonnes qualités | qui nous manquent.
 7 Rien ne contribue plus | au bonheur de la vie | que de
 8 voir les choses | telles qu'elles sont.
 9 Peu de choses sont nécessaires | pour rendre
 10 le sage heureux ; | rien ne peut | contenter un sot.
 11 Si la vérité | se montrait | aux hommes | dans
 12 toute sa beauté, | ils ne mentiraient jamais.
 13 Un ouvrier | qui travaille | du matin | au soir,
 14 quand il est bien payé | de son travail,
 15 vit souvent | plus heureux | qu'un prince.
 16 La bonne éducation | nous enseigne
 17 à nous conduire bien | envers tout le monde.
 18 Les rangs | et les dignités | ne sont que l'ombre
 19 de la vraie grandeur.
 20 Rien n'est | si contagieux | que l'exemple ;
 21 et nous ne faisons jamais | beaucoup de bien
 22 ou beaucoup de mal | sans imitateurs.
 23 Nos dépenses | devraient être | en rapport avec
 24 notre condition, | et avec les circonstances.
 25 Peu de gens | sont assez sages | pour préférer
 26 le blâme | qui leur est utile, | à la louange
 27 qui les trahit. | — La clémence, | la sagesse
 28 et le courage | sont de plus beaux ornements dans
 29 un prince | que les bijoux | dont il est couvert.
 30 Ne faites pas aux autres | ce que vous
 31 ne voudriez pas | qu'on vous fît.
 32 Personne n'est exempt | de défauts.
 33 L'espérance, | toute trompeuse qu'elle est,
 34 sert au moins | à nous mener | à la fin de la vie
 35 par un chemin agréable et fleuri.
 36 Quelques richesses | que vous puissiez avoir,
 37 vous ne serez jamais | heureux | si vous ne savez
 38 modérer vos désirs. | — Ce n'est pas assez d'avoir
 39 une grande fortune | pour être heureux, | il faut
 40 aussi savoir | la dépenser | sans prodigalité
 41 et sans avarice. | — L'envie est le désir
 42 de posséder | ce qui appartient | aux autres.

1 SELECT SENTENCES.

- 2 We have every thing | from God ; | consequently it
- 3 is fit, | it is just | that we should refer | to him
- 4 all our actions. | Henry the Fourth | has said that
- 5 praises would be | of a very great advantage | if
- 6 they gave us | the good qualities | of which we are in want.
- 7 Nothing is more conducive | to the happiness of life | than
- 8 to see things | as they are.
- 9 Few things are necessary | to make
- 10 a wise man happy ; | nothing can | make a fool content.
- 11 If truth | showed itself | to men | in
- 12 all its beauty, | they would never tell a falsehood.
- 13 A labourer, | who works | from morning | till night,
- 14 when he is well paid | for his labour,
- 15 often lives | more happy | than a prince.
- 16 Good education | teaches us
- 17 to behave well | to every body.
- 18 Rank | and dignities | are but the shadow
- 19 of true greatness.
- 20 Nothing is | so contagious | as example ;
- 21 and we never do | much good
- 22 or much evil, | without imitators.
- 23 Our expenses | should be | fitted to
- 24 our condition | and to circumstances.
- 25 Few people | are wise enough | to prefer
- 26 the blame | that is useful to them, | to the praise
- 27 which betrays them. | —Clemency, | wisdom,
- 28 and courage | are finer ornaments in
- 29 a prince | than the jewels | with which he is covered.
- 30 Do not do to others | what you
- 31 would not wish | to be done to you.
- 32 No one is free | from defects.
- 33 Hope, | deceitful as it is,
- 34 serves at least | to lead us | to the end of life
- 35 by an agreeable and flowery path.
- 36 Whatever riches | you may have,
- 37 you will never be | happy | if you do not know how
- 38 to moderate your wishes. | —It is not enough to have
- 39 a large fortune | to be happy, | we must
- 40 also know how | to spend it | without prodigality,
- 41 or avarice.— | Envy is the wish
- 42 to possess | what belongs to others.

1 Ce qui fait qu'on n'est pas content | de sa condition,
 2 c'est l'idée chimérique | que l'on se forme
 3 du bonheur | d'autrui.
 4 Parlez peu | et bien, | si vous voulez
 5 qu'on vous regarde | comme un homme de mérite.
 6 Il y a plus de gloire | à pardonner, | qu'il n'y a
 7 de plaisir à se venger. | — Tout le monde
 8 se plaint | de sa mémoire. | mais personne ne
 9 se plaint | de son jugement. | — Il y a bien des gens
 10 qu'on estime, | parce qu'on ne les connaît pas.
 11 L'hypocrisie | est une espèce | d'hommage
 12 que le vice | rend à la vertu. | — Le vrai mérite
 13 ne dépend pas | du temps | ni de la mode.
 14 Le silence | est le parti le plus sûr | pour celui qui
 15 se défie | de lui-même. | — Ne remettez pas
 16 à demain | ce que vous pouvez faire | aujourd'hui.
 17 On ne donne rien | si facilement | que les conseils.
 18 Qui n'a point de sens | à trente ans | n'en aura jamais.
 19 Je ne crois pas | que la vraie amitié | puisse
 20 exister | entre des personnes | qui ne sont pas vertueuses.
 21 Le chagrin | et l'inquiétude | ne remédient à rien,
 22 ils nous rendent | encore plus malheureux | dans l'infortune.
 23 L'amour-propre | est le plus grand | de tous les flatteurs.
 24 Si nous ne nous flattons pas nous-mêmes,
 25 la flatterie des autres | ne nous pourrait nuire.
 26 Quand les vices | nous quittent, | nous nous flattons
 27 que c'est nous | qui les quittons.
 28 Mettez vous toujours | à la place | de celui à qui
 29 vous voulez faire | une injure ; | vous
 30 ne l'offenserez jamais. | — Si vous désirez
 31 être heureux | quand vous serez vieux, | soyez
 32 tempéré | tandis que vous êtes jeune.
 33 La patience | est le meilleur remède | contre
 34 les calamités ; | le temps, tôt ou tard | découvre la vérité.
 35 Le moyen le plus sûr | de se consoler | de tout ce qui
 36 peut arriver, | c'est de s'attendre toujours au pire.
 37 Le véritable honneur | consiste toujours | à faire ce que
 38 notre devoir | exige de nous, | quelque bas, | et
 39 quelque pénible | que ce devoir nous paraisse.
 40 Aimez DIEU | de tout votre cœur, | de toute
 41 votre ame ; | et votre prochain | comme vous même.

- 1 What makes people dissatisfied | with their condition,
- 2 is the chimerical idea | which they form
- 3 of the happiness | of others.
- 4 Speak little, | and well, | if you wish
- 5 to be looked upon | as a man of merit.
- 6 There is more glory | in forgiving, | than there is
- 7 pleasure | in taking revenge. | —Every body
- 8 complains | of his memory, | but no body
- 9 complains | of his judgment. | —There are many people
- 10 whom a man esteems, | because he does not know them.
- 11 Hypocrisy | is a kind | of homage,
- 12 which vice | pays to virtue. | —True merit
- 13 does not depend | on time, | nor fashion.
- 14 Silence | is the surest choice | for him who
- 15 distrusts himself. | —Do not put off
- 16 till to-morrow | what you can do | to-day.
- 17 People give nothing | so readily | as advice.
- 18 He who has no sense | at thirty | will never have any.
- 19 I do not believe | that true friendship | can
- 20 can exist | between people | who are not virtuous.
- 21 Sorrow | and disquiet | are remedies for nothing ;
- 22 they make us | still more wretched | in ill-fortune.
- 23 Self-love | is the greatest | of all flatterers.
- 24 If we did not flatter ourselves,
- 25 the flattery of others | could not hurt us.
- 26 When vices | forsake us, | we flatter ourselves
- 27 that it is we | who forsake them.
- 28 Put yourself always | in the place | of him to whom
- 29 you would do | an injury ; | you
- 30 will never offend him. | —If you wish
- 31 to be happy | when you are old, | be
- 32 temperate | when you are young.
- 33 Patience | is the best remedy | against
- 34 calumnies : | time, sooner or later, | discovers the truth.
- 35 The surest method | of consolation | against all that
- 36 can happen, | is always to expect the worst.
- 37 True honour | always consists | in doing what
- 38 our duty | requires of us, | however mean | and
- 39 however troublesome | that duty may appear to us.
- 40 Love GOD | with all your heart, | with all
- 41 your soul ; | and your neighbour | as yourself.

III

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